

DAY 21**The Coming Harvest****God's Word for Today**

Read John 4:27-38 and Acts 1:8

Thoughts for Today

If you have been fasting from food in order to seek the Lord in prayer for revival and awakening, you can identify with Jesus. The disciples were trying to get Him to eat, but He was preparing to reap a spiritual harvest of a city. His food was to obey the will of His Father. Sometimes a spiritual purpose will be far more important to us than taking time to eat.

Jesus' disciples were surprised when they found Him speaking to the woman. A Jewish man would not be caught in public talking to a Samaritan woman, especially a divorcee with five ex-husbands. What was He doing? The disciples may have expected a spiritual harvest when Jesus established His kingdom. Jesus essentially said, "Why wait? It's harvest time now!"

Let's hear His words for us. We could be saying something like this:

x Maybe awakening will come when all the churches experience revival. x We can't expect a harvest when the lost world is so cold and hardened. x He's delayed 2,000 years to come back. We don't need to rush now.

x We have tried before (fished all night). This isn't a good time.

One day Peter and his partners had been fishing all night. But Jesus told them to go into the deep water and drop their nets. They reluctantly obeyed and caught so many fish they nearly sank two boats! "When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus' knees and said, 'Go away from me, because I'm a sinful man, Lord!' " (Luke 5:8). That's the day Jesus called him to fish for men. Did you notice the great harvest of fish came before Peter confessed his sin? Sometimes God's kindness brings repentance (Rom. 2:4).

The harvest is the Lord's work. He has chosen us to be workers together with Him in this great task. He is bringing in a harvest in many places around the world. He is fully able to do that where we live also. Let's pay attention to His final statement of His final command to us and be His witnesses to the ends of the earth. Jesus would say to us, "Open your eyes and look at the fields, for they are ready for harvest" (John 4:35).

It's Time to Pray

1. Pledge your willingness to obey God, and ask Him to bring in a great harvest for His glory. Continue to pray for workers for the harvest.
2. Ask God what He wants you to do today to apply what He has revealed.

PRAYING FOR THOSE YET TO BELIEVE

As you pray for those yet to believe, consider some of these prayers.

1. Bring him to recognize his emptiness and purposelessness in life. Bring him to the end of himself so that he will turn to You.
2. Cause him to hunger and thirst for more in life.
3. Bring him to understand the truth of his condition without Christ and to understand what Christ has done for his salvation.
4. Bring conviction of sin. Allow the consequences of his sin to cause him to desire a different life. Let him become fed up with his life as it is.
5. Jesus, reveal the Father to him.
6. Father, exalt Jesus in his eyes.
7. Father, draw him to Yourself and Your Son Jesus.
8. Guide and create circumstances that create a need, and then show Your love through meeting needs through me or others of Your people.
9. Bring godly people into his life that will influence him for Christ.
10. Prepare circumstances where a Christian will have the opportunity to forgive him and thus reveal something of your mercy.
11. Lord, I care so much for this person you have my permission to allow him to offend me in such a serious way he knows he doesn't deserve forgiveness. Then enable me to forgive him to show him what Your mercy looks like that You may draw Him to Yourself.
12. Open his ears to hear Your call.
13. Allow him to see the unity and love of Your people in a way that he is convinced that Jesus must be sent from You. Convince him that Jesus is indeed the Savior of the world.
14. Prepare his life to receive the planting of Your Word.
15. Protect him from Satan's attempts to blind him and steal away the Word that has been sown.
16. Reduce the cares of the world around him that could choke the seed planted in his mind.
17. Raise up intercessors in behalf of this person.
18. Reveal to me the time and the way for me to share a witness about you and to tell him about the good news of salvation.
19. Bring him under the hearing and influence of Your Word through teaching or preaching. Create in him an openness to listen.
20. Create opportunities for him to hear a witness for Christ from several different trusted sources. Use the timing and diversity of these witnesses to convince him that You are the Author behind them all.
21. Cause him to recognize his need for a Savior.
22. Lord, do whatever it takes to cause this person to seek after You. Break the hardness of his heart toward You.

