

FINANCIAL FITNESS

The Laws of Sowing and Reaping
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Key Verse:

Proverbs 11:18 (NIV)

18 The wicked man earns deceptive wages, but he who sows righteousness reaps a sure reward.

NINE LAWS OF SOWING AND REAPING

1. Everything _____ as a _____.

Genesis 1:11 (NIV)

11 Then God said, "Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds." And it was so.

Zechariah 4:10 (NIV)

10 "Who despises the day of small things? Men will rejoice when they see the plumb line in the hand of Zerubbabel. "(These seven are the eyes of the LORD, which range throughout the earth.)"

2. Nothing happens until the seed is _____.

John 12:24 (NRSV)

24 Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.

3. Whatever I _____ is what I _____.

Galatians 6:7-8 (MSG)

7 Don't be misled: No one makes a fool of God. What a person plants, he will harvest. The person who plants selfishness, ignoring the needs of others—ignoring God!—
8 harvests a crop of weeds. All he'll have to show for his life is weeds! But the one who plants in response to God, letting God's Spirit do the growth work in him, harvests a crop of real life, eternal life.

Proverbs 26:27 (NIV)

27 If a man digs a pit, he will fall into it; if a man rolls a stone, it will roll back on him.

Hosea 10:13a (NIV)

13 But you have planted wickedness, you have reaped evil...

We reap the same thing we sow. Whatever you give out, you're going to get back!

4. My _____ impacts other.

Everything you do has consequences. Your choices impact other people.

John 4:38 (NLT2)

38 I sent you to harvest where you didn't plant; others had already done the work, and now you will get to gather the harvest."

5. I always _____ in a different _____ than from when I _____.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-2, 5 (NIV)

- 1 There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven:
2 a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot,
5 a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain,

While I'm waiting, God is working.

6. I always _____ more than I _____.

Mark 4:8 (NIV)

8 Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up, grew and produced a crop, multiplying thirty, sixty, or even a hundred times."

7. I can _____ my harvest by planting _____ seed.

2 Corinthians 9:6-7 (NIV)

- 6 Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.
7 Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

Proverbs 11:24 (MSG)

24 The world of the generous gets larger and larger; the world of the stingy gets smaller and smaller.

8. It's time to start _____ now.

Ecclesiastes 11:4 (NLT2)

4 Farmers who wait for perfect weather never plant. If they watch every cloud, they never harvest.

Ecclesiastes 11:6 (NRSV)

6 In the morning sow your seed, and at evening do not let your hands be idle; for you do not know which will prosper, this or that, or whether both alike will be good.

1 Corinthians 9:11 (NRSV)

11 If we have sown spiritual good among you, is it too much if we reap your material benefits?

9. To reap the harvest, I must be _____ and not _____.

Mark 4:26-28 (NIV)

26 He also said, "This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man scatters seed on the ground.

27 Night and day, whether he sleeps or gets up, the seed sprouts and grows, though he does not know how.

28 All by itself the soil produces grain--first the stalk, then the head, then the full kernel in the head.

Galatians 6:9 (KJV)

9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

Focus on the long term harvest, not the short term pleasure.

Psalms 126:5-6 (NLT2)

5 Those who plant in tears will harvest with shouts of joy.

6 They weep as they go to plant their seed, but they sing as they return with the harvest.