

## Pt. 1: Farm vs. Factory

Questions for further study and application:

Day 1 Successful people repeat the right things, and, in time, they receive their reward. Galatians 6:9, says not to become weary of doing good for at the right time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. If you substitute "I" for "we" you will reap a harvest if you don't give up. Whether it is a Bible reading plan, a work out regime, or a budget; in order for you to see the benefits of any of them, you must do them over and over again. Find the right things to repeat this year and do it over and over again, and, in time, you'll receive the reward.

## What's New?

Collectively as a church, we've set aside January 8th-28th as 21 Days of Prayer and Fasting. Together for these 21 days, we will faithfully seek God first, trusting in His power alone to create lasting impact in our lives, our church, and our world. Check out watersedgechurch.net for additional resources.

- Day 2 Read Galatians 6:7. A man sews what he reaps. The Bible uses farming analogies because that is what people did then, they farmed. They didn't receive paychecks on the 1st and the 15th. They had to plant their seeds, and then wait for them to grow before they could harvest them, weeks and months later. What seeds can you plant today to get the harvest you desire? Ask God to help you determine the right seeds to plant.
- Day 3 Read Mark 4:46-47. You are constantly planting seeds whether you are aware of it or not. Seeds are words of encouragement, random acts of kindness, or pointing someone to Jesus. Seeds can also be words of discouragement, acts of revenge, or forgetting about God. It's up to you what type of seeds you plant. God will make sure good seeds will get watered and grow. Be diligent in what you are planting; make sure the seeds you plant are good seeds.
- Day 4 Read John 15:1. Jesus is the vine and God is the gardener. God works on you more like a farm than a factory. Your life is built over time; remember that it is a process, and it will not happen overnight. A good way to think of it is that God's work in you is far more like a crock pot than a microwave. You want it to be done fast and quick, you want results right now, but slow cooking in the crock pot makes for a much more satisfying result. Don't rush God's work in your life. The journey is as important as the destination.
- When you pray and fast, you're calling out to God. Read Joel 1:14. Fasting can jumpstart your growth. Fasting is like adding fertilizer to the seeds you're planting. The important part of a fast isn't that you are giving something up, it's that you are trading it for something better. You're trading it for a closer relationship with God. Fasting increases your dependency on God. The more of God you need, the more of God you get. Use these 21 days of fasting as an opportunity to grow closer to God and experience more of Him.