

I. The Kingdom of God Works as SEED TIME and HARVEST

A. Scriptures

1. Genesis 8:22

NKJV “While the earth remains, Seedtime and harvest, Cold and heat, Winter and summer, And day and night Shall not cease.”

Other Translations: “PLANTING” and “HARVESTING”

- a. This is a **spiritual law** that God established from the beginning of time: mankind would SOW and REAP (PLANT and HARVEST).
- b. This LAW doesn’t cease. It will continue as long as the earth exists.

2. Mark 4:26-29

NKJV “And He said, ‘The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground, and should sleep by night and rise by day, and the seed should sprout and grow, he himself does not know how. For the earth yields crops by itself: first the blade, then the head, after that the full grain in the head. But when the grain ripens, immediately he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come.’”

Message “Then Jesus said, ‘God’s kingdom is like seed thrown on a field by a man who then goes to bed and forgets about it. The seed sprouts and grows—he has no idea how it happens. The earth does it all without his help: first a green stem of grass, then a bud, then the ripened grain. When the grain is fully formed, he reaps—harvest time!’”

PASTOR’S NOTE: *There is a required process for obtaining the harvest. In this passage, the process is: SOWING → WAITING → HARVESTING = SEED → TIME → HARVEST.*

3. Phillipians 1:11

KJV “Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God.”

NLT “May you always be filled with the fruit of your salvation—the righteous character produced in your life by Jesus Christ—for this will bring much glory and praise to God.”

PASTOR’S NOTE: *Our salvation allows us to be filled with FRUITS of righteousness. Bringing forth fruit requires the sowing of seed! There is much fruit associated with our position of righteousness, but we still must SOW for the harvest!*

II. Reaping the Harvest of Healing

A. You MUST SOW THE SEED for EVERY HARVEST

1. Luke 8:11-15 (THE WORD IS THE SEED)

NKJV “Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. Those by the wayside are the ones who hear; then the devil comes and takes away the word **out of their hearts**, lest they should believe and be saved. But the ones on the rock *are those* who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, who believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. Now the ones *that* fell among thorns are those who, when they have heard, go out and are choked with cares, riches, and pleasures of life, and bring no fruit to maturity. But the ones *that* fell on the good ground are those who, having heard the word with a noble and good heart, keep *it* and bear fruit with patience.”

2. Mark 4:14

KJV “...the Sower soweth the Word”

3. The Kingdom of God works like the natural law of sowing seed and harvesting.

- In this world, whatever CROP you desire, you must sow the SEED for it.
- In the Kingdom, whatever you desire to reap, you must sow the seed for it.
- In the Kingdom, THE WORD IS ALWAYS THE SEED.

PASTOR'S NOTE: *There are many who are attempting to reap a harvest that has never been sown. If you did not take the WORD SEED and sow it, you will never receive a harvest.*

B. The Heart is the Soil

1. Luke 8:12

KJV “Those by the way side are they that hear; then cometh the devil, and taketh away the **word out of their hearts**, lest they should believe and be saved.”

PASTOR'S NOTE: *The WORD is “sown” in the heart. Therefore, the heart must be soil! The process for reaping a KINGDOM HARVEST includes SOWING the Word / seed into the heart / soil. Once the seed is in the heart, you are on your way to a harvest.*

C. The Word must be PLANTED to function as the seed.

1. Planting the seed is more than reading the Bible.

2. Planting the seed is moving the seed into the depths of the heart.

3. You must plant the seed beneath the soil.

• **Psalm 119:11**

NKJV “Your word I have hidden in my heart that I might not sin against you.”

• **Hosea 10:12**

NKJV “Sow for yourselves righteousness; Reap in mercy; **Break up your fallow ground**, For *it is* time to seek the LORD, Till He comes and rains righteousness on you.”

AMP “Sow with a view to righteousness [that righteousness, like seed, may germinate]; Reap in accordance with mercy *and* lovingkindness.

Break up your uncultivated ground, For it is time to seek *and* search diligently for the LORD [and to long for His blessing] Until He comes to rain righteousness *and* His gift of salvation on you.”

HCSB “unplowed ground”

GWT “...‘break new ground. Plant righteousness, and harvest the fruit that your loyalty will produce for me.’ It's time to seek the LORD! When he comes, he will rain righteousness on you.”

PASTOR'S NOTE: *Breaking up the fallow ground is clearing and preparing the soil for a good harvest. GET THE GROUND READY FOR THE SEED. The farmer doesn't just grab the seed and toss it into unprepared soil. The soil must be ready for the seed!*

The heart must be prepared to receive the seed of the Word. You prepare yourself by tearing down traditional / religious arguments that choke the Word. You prepare your heart by meditating on and receiving the Word in humility. DECIDE TO BELIEVE AND RECEIVE THE WORD / SEED!

- **Proverbs 13:23**

NKJV “Much food *is in the fallow ground* of the poor, And for lack of justice there is waste.”

GWT “When poor people are able to plow, there is much food, but a person is swept away where there is no justice.”

GNT “Unused fields could yield plenty of food for the poor, but unjust people keep them from being farmed.”

PASTOR'S NOTE: *There is a mighty harvest potential in the unsown field, YET it will never be reaped because it isn't sown! How many people have left the soil of their heart unsown? Our heart soil will produce any harvest of WORD SEED that we sow, just as much as the natural soil will produce any harvest of NATURAL SEED that is sown—BUT ONLY WHEN THE SEED IS SOWN into the soil.*

D. Sow HEALING SEED for the harvest of healing.

There are many things that will assist us in receiving healing. Listening to healing sermons, reading healing resources, personal prayer and worship all have a place in our healing journey. However, nothing replaces the planting of the HEALING WORD SEED in the depths of our heart.

1. Choose your scriptures wisely.

While you may read many scripture passages on healing, do not choose too many as your foundational seed scriptures for healing. You will read many encouraging scriptures, but ALL of these will not become the seed in your heart.

2. The Sowing Process: Meditation and Saying

Meditation and speaking the Word drives it into the soil of the heart.

• **Romans 10:8-10**

NKJV “But what does it say? ‘The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart’ (that is, the word of faith which we preach): that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”

E. You Must WATER the Seed

1. Isaiah 55:10-11 (THE WORD ALSO FUNCTIONS AS WATER)

NKJV “For **as the rain** comes down, **and the snow** from heaven, And do not return there, **But water the earth**, And make it bring forth and bud, That it may give seed to the sower And bread to the eater, So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper *in the thing* for which I sent it.”

PASTOR’S NOTE: *In this passage, the type and shadow is the WORD as WATER—not seed. Every seed requires water! Once the Word has been sown as seed, the same Word acts as water for the nourishment and activation of the seed.*

Too often people fail to water their spiritual harvest. When they need to mediate more on the Word they fail to do so, allowing other things to choke the Word prior to harvest time.

2. Water the seed by going back to the Word.

- Look at it.
- Meditate on it.
- Pray it.
- Speak it.

PASTOR'S NOTE: *Every time you review the scriptures you have planted the SEED is watered / refreshed / renewed / kept alive and active. The watering of the WORD with the WORD keeps the Word alive, active, strong, and at work in your life. Keeping the HEALING WORD WATERED with the Word keeps healing at work in your body!*

3. Water the seed with your testimony.

- *Speak of what God has done and is doing, rather than discussing everything you have been through!*
- **Mark 5:19**
NKJV "However, Jesus did not permit him, but said to him, 'Go home to your friends, and tell them what great things the Lord has done for you, and how He has had compassion on you.'"

PASTOR'S NOTE: *This man had just received his healing. One of the keys to keeping what he received was to testify about what Jesus did for him. Notice, Jesus did not tell him to spend lengthy time talking about the horrors he had experienced. While these things do have a place in our testimony, we need to be sure to spend more time on the victory side of the story than the horror side.*

F. You Must Guard the Seed.

Just as a natural garden must be protected from pests and other negative influences that destroy the harvest, every spiritual harvest (Healing Included) must be protected from the forces sent to destroy the harvest.

- 1. A farmer never plants the seed and leaves it unprotected.**
- 2. Set a watch against enemies to your healing harvest, and do not allow them to enter.**
 - a. Unforgiveness regarding issues of the past:
*Satan always attempts to bring up things in our past that have caused hurt. Unforgiveness stops the supernatural flow. This is a spiritual law. (See **Mark 11**)*
 - b. Distractions:
The enemy will set distractions in your path to keep you away from the Word. This keeps you from watering your seed. Seed that has not been watered will not produce.

c. Atmospheres of strife:

Where there is strife there is confusion and every evil work. If an atmosphere is charged with strife, stay clear!

d. Negative thoughts and words:

Whenever negative thoughts and words become an issue, your seed needs more water. Once the seed is watered sufficiently, your thoughts and words will align with your seed. Unwatered seed allows your thoughts to become dominated by natural senses (how you feel).

e. Negative people and conversations:

When you know you are going to be exposed to those who do not practice faith on the same level as you, set a guard ahead of time, refusing to allow their belief systems or mindsets to affect your faith.

III. Additional Scriptures on Being Watered

A. Psalm 1:1-3

NKJV “Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful; But his delight is in the law of the Lord, And in His law he meditates day and night. **He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water**, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper.”

PASTOR’S NOTE: *The person that meditates in the Word of God is well-watered, like a tree planted by the river. A well-watered life brings forth fruit!*

B. Isaiah 58:11

ESV “The Lord will guide you continually and satisfy your desire in scorched places and make your bones strong; **and you shall be like a watered garden**, like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail.”

C. Isaiah 44:3-4

GNT “I will give water to the thirsty land and make streams flow on the dry ground. I will pour out my spirit on your children and my blessing on your

descendants. They will thrive like well-watered grass, like willows by streams of running water.”

D. Deuteronomy 11:14

NKJV “...then I will give *you* the rain for your land in its season, the early rain and the latter rain, that you may gather in your grain, your new wine, and your oil.”

PASTOR’S NOTE: *The Lord gives RAIN upon the seeded fields to bring forth a great harvest. The Lord also gives **spiritual** rain upon your **spiritual** seed for a great harvest.*

E. Leviticus 26:4

CEV “...and I will send rain to make your crops grow and your trees produce fruit”

F. Zechariah 10:1

HCSB “Ask the LORD for rain in the season of spring rain. The LORD makes the rain clouds, and He will give them showers of rain and crops in the field for everyone”

G. 1 Corinthians 3:6

NLT “I planted the seed in your hearts, and Apollos watered it, but it was God who made it grow.”

H. Acts 14:17

HCSB “...although He did not leave Himself without a witness, since He did what is good by giving you rain from heaven and fruitful seasons and satisfying your hearts with food and happiness.”

CEV “...but he showed he was there by the good things he did. God sends rain from heaven and makes your crops grow. He gives food to you and makes your hearts glad.”

PASTOR’S NOTE: *Seed isn’t the only requirement for a successful harvest. We also need the rain!*