

**CHRIST'S BIBLE FELLOWSHIP**

The Gospel of John: The Deity and Teaching of Jesus Christ

**"Sowing and Reaping—The Collaborative Work of God's Kingdom"**

John 4:27-38 NKJV

And at this point His disciples came, and they marveled that He talked with a woman; yet no one said, "What do You seek?" or, "Why are You talking with her?" [28] The woman then left her waterpot, went her way into the city, and said to the men, [29] "Come, see a Man who told me all things that I ever did. Could this be the Christ?" [30] Then they went out of the city and came to Him. [31] In the meantime His disciples urged Him, saying, "Rabbi, eat." [32] But He said to them, "I have food to eat of which you do not know." [33] Therefore the disciples said to one another, "Has anyone brought Him anything to eat?" [34] Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work. [35] Do you not say, 'There are still four months and then comes the harvest'? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest! [36] And he who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, that both he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together. [37] For in this the saying is true: 'One sows and another reaps.' [38] I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored, and you have entered into their labors."

Mark your text: God Jesus

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**Discussion Questions:**

1. In what ways did the encounter with Jesus inspire the Samaritan woman? (vv.28-29)
  
2. Discuss vv.31-34. Reflect on a time when pursuing spiritual goals provided you with a sense of fulfillment that went beyond physical or material needs.
  
3. Discuss the figurative meaning "white for harvest" regarding:
  1. Readiness of People
  2. Urgency of the Mission
  3. Invitations to Laborers

What is the practical application for each of these?

4. Jesus emphasized the importance of both sowing and reaping in ministry. In what ways can we understand and apply the concept of sowing and reaping in our own spiritual lives and ministries?
  
5. What is the significance of the phrase, "So that the sower and the reaper may be glad together"?

### Bible References

**Matthew 5:13-16** "You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men. [14] "You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. [15] Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. [16] Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

**Psalms 34:8** Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good; Blessed is the man who trusts in Him!

**1 Peter 3:15** But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear;

**John 5:30** I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me.

**John 8:29** And He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him."

**Matthew 4:4** But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'"

**John 17:4** I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do.)

**Romans 1:16-17** For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. [17] For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "The just shall live by faith."

**Luke 10:1-2** After these things the Lord appointed seventy others also, and sent them two by two before His face into every city and place where He Himself was about to go. [2] Then He said to them, "The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few; therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.