

The Year of Harvest

Prayer Guide

Week 4

The Year of Harvest – A Shared Joy

And he who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, that both he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together. For in this the saying is true: 'One sows and another reaps.'

John 4:36-37 (NKJV)



Prayer Focus: Although we are to develop a lifestyle of sowing as we go into the world. We must realize that the sowing and reaping of the harvest is a shared labor. There may be many times that we have the privilege of leading a person to place their faith in the finished work of Christ on the cross, but there were probably many others in the past who had sown the words of eternal life with that person without seeing the harvest. Jesus' words were: "one sows and another reaps." Think on this truth for a moment. In the gracious sovereignty of God, He allows us to share together in the process of harvest. Not all who sow will see the harvest, but in the end, before the throne of God, all who were a part of the sowing, and nurturing and reaping of the harvest will share together in the joy. Don't miss the larger picture here of what this means for you and your church. Each of us are called to be faithful in sowing using the spiritual gifts God gives to us. Our responsibility is to be faithful to our part, with the faith to believe that He who promised is true, and we will share in the harvest. The activities of the local church should not simply be about having programs to promote and keep people busy, but rather, we should be about the business of giving everyone an opportunity to participate in the harvest so that we can all share in the joy. Again, as Jesus said: that both he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together. Let us be faithful to our part so that we can rejoice together when the time for the harvest comes.

Day 1: Praise the Lord that He allows us the joy and privilege of sharing together many times in the harvest.

Day 2: Give thanks for this word from the Lord that we gather fruit for eternal life.

Day 3: Ask the Lord to give you perseverance and patience as you look forward to the harvest.

Day 4: Pray for the other believers that are sowing and cultivating, partners you may not even know yet.

Day 5: Pray for your church to learn how to effectively partner with other churches in your city for the harvest of eternal life.

Day 6: Pray for the churches in your city to not be in competition, but learn to work together for the harvest.

Day 7: Pray for missionaries to have this sense that they will reap the rewards with others who have sown before them.