

## The Year of Harvest

### Prayer Guide

#### Week 7

### The Year of Harvest – Lift Up Your Eyes

*Then Jesus explained: “My nourishment comes from doing the will of God, who sent me, and from finishing his work. You know the saying, ‘Four months between planting and harvest.’ But I say, wake up and look around. The fields are already ripe for harvest.*

#### John 4:34-35 (NLT)



**Prayer Focus:** As we have seen, there is a season for harvest and the Lord commands us to not lose heart as we wait, but there is another side this lesson of the harvest. Here in John 4, Jesus teaches the disciples and us an important lesson. “Open your eyes to the harvest that is around you!” At the conclusion of his talk with the Samaritan woman, she goes back into the village and tells everyone about Jesus. They come streaming from the village to see this prophet of God. At the same time, the disciples had gone to buy bread to eat. They had been focused on the necessities and needs of this world, supplying dinner for the group. A good and right responsibility. However Jesus wants them to wake up and see things from a Kingdom point of view. From this perspective, there was no need to wait four months between planting and harvesting. He had planted the seed of eternal life in the heart of this woman, and the harvest was immediate! They were coming to Him at that very moment. Jesus wanted his disciples to have eyes to see in the spiritual realm that the harvest was already ripe and ready. They needed only to see it. The lesson for us is to be careful that we are not so focused on the necessities of this world that our eyes are shut to the harvest that God may have right in front of us. It is the challenge of living in two worlds. The world of the physical and the world of the Kingdom of God. May our eyes be open to the harvest that is ready right in front of us.

**Day 1:** Praise the Lord that there is always a harvest that is ready to be gathered if we will see.

**Day 2:** Pray for those who are ready to hear, like the Samaritan woman. Pray for someone to speak to them the living Word.

**Day 3:** Ask the Lord to open your eyes to the harvest that may be right in front of you.

**Day 4:** Ask the Lord to help you not to be too focused on the things of this world that you miss the harvest.

**Day 5:** Pray that your church will teach and practice this important truth outside its four walls.

**Day 6:** Pray that other churches in your city will lift up their eyes to see the harvest that is ready.

**Day 7:** Pray for missionaries to be aware of the harvest that is ripe for harvest on their field of service.