

## TRUSTING THE WORD TO WORK

"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."

Mark 4:26-29 (NKJV)

Jesus compared sharing the Word of God in any given environment and in any given situation to a farmer sowing seeds in fields and awaiting the harvest. He described different kinds of soil and different ways in which the seed develops and the harvest that follows. How soil has been treated previous to and during the sowing process, determines how long it may take for it to grow and the quality of the harvest.

Because He is the *Lord* of the harvest, we need to rest in the fact that He sees what we don't see and can detect stages of growth, hindrances to that growth that are beyond our human ability to comprehend, and wisdom to respond to the need for assistance and correction.

At the heart of this concept is *trust*. Trust that the *life* in the seed will be sufficient to push past the obstacles that are there to keep it from growing. Trust that the ultimate *outcome* will rise to the level of expectations that exist in our heart. And, trust that God will *oversee* its growth and empower its development in spite of what we may see that is contrary to what we are hoping for.

Consider the following as it relates to this concept of **trust**:

1. **Word-seed is filled with God's life.** What is present in the seed will come forth and bring a harvest of righteousness. God will oversee the process between sowing and harvesting, we don't have to worry. As the process goes on, our prayers don't make the Seed grow, God has already programmed it to do that. What prayer does is keep our **focus** on God and not the person or situation into which the Seed has been sown. Praise will keep our verbal confessions directed toward God's love and faithfulness to carry out His promises.

2. **The harvest is God's responsibility.** We sow in view of the harvest not in view of where people and things are presently. Naturally, we have a present tense view of what we face which motivated us to sow the Seed in the first place. But the desire to see the outcome can become overwhelming and destructive to our peace if we determine progress by what we see. So, our praise reminds us that God is mindful of what we face and committed to bringing forth a harvest of His Seed we have sown. In Isaiah 55:11 God promises His Word, as seed, will bring forth *His* desired harvest.

3. **It is a mystery in how it works.** We don't have to know *how* God is working within the life of the one, or the situation, into which we have sown the Word. *How* truth becomes reality and changes natural hearts and circumstances is a *mystery*. It is *beyond* man's knowledge, control, and timing. I do not believe it is necessary for us to know how God brings about the answer. Not knowing is a great way to maintain our humility as we cannot take any credit for the outcome. All credit and glory goes to God and His divine wisdom and ability.

Trusting frees us from the pressure of desired outcomes we seek. During the growth and development of the Seed, our *joy* is in the Father's love for His children and our *hope* is founded on His promise to bring all things into *conformity* to His plan.