



THE *Life* OF Jesus

FEBRUARY 21, 2021 – AN APPEAL TO IMAGINATION

"He also said, 'This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man scatters seed on the ground. Night and day, whether he sleeps or gets up, the seed sprouts and grows, though he does not know how. All by itself the soil produces grain—first the stalk, then the head, then the full kernel in the head. As soon as the grain is ripe, he puts the sickle to it, because the harvest has come.'"

Mark 4:26-29

1. See life through the eyes of God

"How do you know about me?" Nathanael asked.

Jesus replied, 'I could see you under the fig tree before Philip found you.'

Then Nathanael exclaimed, 'Rabbi, you are the Son of God—the King of Israel!'

Jesus asked him, 'Do you believe this just because I told you I had seen you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than this.' Then he said, 'I tell you the truth, you will all see heaven open and the angels of God going up and down on the Son of Man, the one who is the stairway between heaven and earth.'" **John 1:48-51**

2. Everything starts as a seed

"Then God said, 'Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds.' And it was so." **Genesis 1:11**

A "seed" is anything valuable **that I give away**.

3. Nothing happens until the seed is planted

"I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat is planted in the soil and dies, it remains alone. But its death will produce many new kernels—a plentiful harvest of new lives." **John 12:24 nlt**

4. Whatever I plant is what I will reap

"A person will reap exactly what he plants." **Galatians 6:7b tev**

"Don't be misled: No one makes a fool of God. What a person plants, he will harvest. The person who plants selfishness, ignoring the needs of others—ignoring God!—harvests a crop of weeds. All he'll have to show for his life is weeds! But the one who plants in response to God, letting God's Spirit do the growth work in him, harvests a crop of real life, eternal life." **Galatians 6:7-8 mes**



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5. I'm not the only one planting seeds

"I sent you to reap what you have not worked for. Others have done the hard work, and you have reaped the benefits of their labor." **John 4:38**

6. I always reap in a different season

"For everything there is a season, a time for every activity under heaven. A time to be born and a time to die. A time to plant and a time to harvest." **Ecclesiastes 3:1-2**

7. I must be patient and not give up

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." **Galatians 6:9**

8. I always reap more than I sow

"Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up, grew and produced a crop, some multiplying thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times." **Mark 4:8**

9. I increase my harvest by planting more seed

"Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." **2 Corinthians 9:6-7**

"The world of the generous gets larger and larger; the world of the stingy gets smaller and smaller." **Proverbs 11:24 mes**

10. The best time to plant is now

"He who watches the wind waiting for all conditions to be perfect will not sow seed, and he who looks at the clouds will not reap a harvest." **Ecclesiastes 11:4 amp**