

“THE JOY OF THE HARVEST”

Psalm 126:1-6 NKJV

¹ When the Lord brought back the captivity of Zion, We were like those who dream. ² Then our mouth was filled with laughter, And our tongue with singing. Then they said among the nations, “The Lord has done great things for them.” ³ The Lord has done great things for us, *And* we are glad. ⁴ Bring back our captivity, O Lord, As the streams in the South. ⁵ Those who sow in tears Shall reap in joy. ⁶ He who continually goes forth weeping, Bearing seed for sowing, Shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, Bringing his sheaves *with him*.

Seven Key factors that are hindering evangelism in churches:

1. There is no priority of evangelism.
2. Many laypersons believe that evangelism is what they pay the pastors and staff to do.
3. Many churches have an excuse mentality.
4. Too many church members do not connect prayer with evangelism.
5. Too many Christians fail to be compassionate and Christ-like to others.
6. Most church ministries are not intentionally evangelistic.
7. Some church members are concerned that new Christians will change their church too much.

Psalm 126:5-6 (GW)

⁵ Those who cry while they plant will joyfully sing while they harvest.
⁶ The person who goes out weeping, carrying his bag of seed, will come home singing, carrying his bundles of grain.

Psalm 126:5-6 (NKJV)

⁵ Those who sow in tears Shall reap in joy. ⁶ He who continually goes forth weeping, Bearing seed for sowing, Shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, Bringing his sheaves *with him*.

VICTORY OVER SPIRITUAL BARRENNESS REQUIRES THREE THINGS:

1. **GOING** vs. 6a “*He who goes out...*”

Matt. 28:18-20 ¹⁸ Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

2. **WEEPING** vs. 6a “*He who goes out weeping,*”

John 4:35b (ASV) ³⁵ “...behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields, that they are white already unto harvest.”

WE WILL ALL BE RAISED TO RECEIVE EITHER ETERNAL LIFE OR JUDGMENT!

John 5:28-29 ²⁸ Don’t be so surprised! Indeed, the time is coming when all the dead in their graves will hear the voice of God’s Son, ²⁹ and they will rise again. Those who have done good will rise to experience eternal life, and those who have continued in evil will rise to experience judgment.

BUT GOD IS PATIENT AND SLOW TO ANGER

References: Ex 34:6; Ps. 86:15; Neh. 9:17; Ps. 103:8; Jn 4:2; 2 Pet. 3:9

3. **SOWING** vs. 6a “*He who goes out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing*”

Luke 8:11 “Now the parable is this: The seed is the Word of God.”

1 Peter 1:23 “having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the Word of God which lives and abides forever,”

Finally, The blessing of Reaping vs.6 “*He who goes out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall doubtless (certainly) come again with rejoicing, Bringing his sheaves with him.*”

The Joy of the Harvest is the result of faithful laborers working in fields rescuing the perishing.

Matt. 9:38 “*Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.*”