

Study Guide

Monday, October 12- Friday, October 16

Monday, October 12- Read James 4:13-17, James 1:10-11, Proverbs 27:1 & Luke 12:16-21.

You are literally living in the harvest of today from the seeds you have sown in the past, whether it's financial commitments, who you married, commitment to Jesus, etc. These may currently be good and/or bad now, but to have good harvest in your future you must seriously think and act today. And because of the uncertainty and fragile nature of life when you plan for the future you better include God in the planning, for when you strategically align your life with God's will, you will reap the good God has for you.

- Name some of the good seeds you've planted in the past that have led to good things in your life today.
- What first caused you to realize that life is seemingly fragile and short?
- In your life plans do you allow God and God's will to guide you? How do you do that?

Tuesday, October 13- Read Galatians 6:7-10 & II Corinthians 9:6. The Bible says you definitely reap what you sow, so the key to reaping good things is to first of all sow in faith. Each seed is its own kind, for instance an apple seed produces an apple tree which produces apples. If you sow seeds of hate, lust, greed etc, you will reap that kind of harvest. However if you sow seeds of integrity, initiative, attentiveness, excellence, serving etc. you will harvest the good they represent. Also it's not just what kind of seed but how much. You will determine the size of your harvest by how much you sow today. Work hard planting as much as you can today so that in time your work will produce a great amount.

- If you reap what you sow, what seed do you have in the ground right now?
- Since you determine the size of the harvest at the time of planting, what seed do you need to get into the ground today?
- Where are you spending the most time, energy, and care right now in your life? Is this helping you reach your future goals?
- What is one future goal you want to reach and how are you working to reach it?

Wednesday, October 14 – Read Hebrews 12:1-2 & Matthew 13:8. In order to get to the harvest season, you must also have both patience and perseverance. No one plants a seed expecting a full fledge tree the next day. But if you will be patient and trust in God, God will actually multiply everything that comes from sowing good seed. The good news is that you are only responsible for the faithful work of sowing. God is responsible for the harvest.

- Are you patient enough to sow now and wait for a future harvest? What helps you persevere?
- How is debt hampering your life goals right now? What plans can you make to get free of this debt?

Thursday, October 15– Re-read James 4:17 & Proverbs 27:23. You need to devise a strategic

plan and commitment for the future and especially as it relates to finances. In order to do that you must do financial and spiritual analysis so that you fully understand your condition and then takes steps to correct, move forward and sow in faith today.

- Have you ever made a strategic outline for the future? What is your strategy for the future?

Friday, October 16 – Read Luke 16:1-13. Our use of money is a good test of the Lordship of Christ. (1) Let us use our resources wisely because they belong to God and not us. (2) Money can be used for good and evil; let us use ours for good. (3) Money has a lot of power, so we must use it carefully and thoughtfully. (4) We must use our material goods in a way that will foster faith and obedience.