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Sowing and Reaping

John 4:31-43
May 28, 2017

I. The Refreshment of Christ (v. 31)

A. The weariness of the human body must not _____
the work of the Spirit

B. The milk of human kindness can not _____ the
fruit of the Spirit

II. The Food of Christ (vv. 32-34)

A. The work Jesus does is not always immediately _____

B. The work Jesus does is to _____ the will of the Father

III. The Harvest of Christ (vv. 35-38)

A. The _____ are white for harvest

B. The _____ are working together

C. The _____ are gathering the fruit

III. The Converts of Christ (vv. 39-42)

A. The _____ of a personal testimony

B. The _____ of a genuine soul

C. The _____ of a transformed life

TAKE HOME

- Can you say, "My _____ is to do the will of him who sent me"?
- Do you believe and _____ like the fields are white for harvest?
- Are you _____ that for which you did not labor?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

James 1:22 says, *“But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.”* These questions are designed to help you apply today’s message to your life. We encourage you to thoughtfully answer these questions and discuss your answers with others. For more information about joining a Small Group that uses these questions as the basis for discussion, prayer, and accountability, please call the church office at (661) 259-2913.

1. Read John 4:31-32. What did Jesus mean by saying “I have food to eat that you do not know about”? In what way might Jesus say the same thing to you? How does Isa. 55:8-9 relate to this?

2. Read John 4:33-34. Why were the disciples confused? What was food that Jesus is talking about? Look at John 5:17, 30, 36; 6:38; 8:29; 9:4; 10:25, 32, 37-38; 14:10 and 17:4. How do these verses help you see what Jesus is talking about more clearly?

3. Read John 4:35. What was Jesus talking about in the first half of this verse? How does Mark 4:26-29 help us see that sometimes it takes some time?

4. What does the second half of John 4:35 talk about? How does Luke 10:2 say the same thing? How about 1 Cor. 3:6-8?

5. Read John 4:36-38. What does Jesus mean when He says, “I sent you to reap”? How can we be reapers today?

6. Read John 4:39-42. How many people come from the town? Do you sometimes underestimate the power of a personal testimony? How does a personal testimony lead someone to Jesus?

7. Read the take home questions. Which one challenges you or encourages you the most? Why? How will you live differently this week based on this passage?

“There are ‘wages’ laid up for faithful reapers. They shall receive a reward at the last day, far exceeding anything they have done for Christ, a reward proportioned not to their success, but to the quantity of their work.”

- J.C. Ryle, *Expository Thoughts on the Gospels*