

## Excited About Sowing the Seed

John 4.1-8

### **Intro:**

Powerful week of being reminded and learning about the need to be instruments of God in reaching those who do not know the risen Lord. God was glorified and we were edified to do His will even more so as members of the church of Christ. We saw brethren all week get excited, renewed, refreshed and encouraged to get more involved in the work of God. Now the time has come to put the plan together and **GET TO WORK** in reaching all through righteousness. Four brief points to illustrate our need to be excited about sowing the seed of the kingdom of God. Remember Luke 8.11, **the seed is the word of God.**

### **Discussion:**

#### **I. Jesus' Brief Encounters in John 3.**

- A. Jesus' teaching concerning the new birth and entering the kingdom. (1-8).
  1. Keywords in vss. 3 and 5 (**see** and **enter**) Same as Matt. 5.20 and "**enter**".
  2. Born of water and Spirit (1 Pet. 1.22-25). Same as Eph. 5.26 and Tit. 3.5.
  3. Jesus was prepping Nicodemus for the kingdom (church) to come.
- B. Nicodemus struggled with Jesus' teachings (9-21).
  1. Jesus was speaking spiritual things, Nicodemus physical.
  2. Jesus gave an example from Numbers 21.4-10 to illustrate.
  3. Jesus always attempted to **elevate** man's thinking—not always successful.
  4. If he did not convert all, we will not either. Keep going...
- C. Jesus, His disciples were teaching the kingdom of God and repentance (22-36).
  1. John was also teaching the same.
  2. John explained to his disciples the need to believe and obey Jesus.
  3. Those refusing to obey will **NOT SEE LIFE** but God's wrath (vs. 36)

#### **II. Jesus Broke Down Cultural Doors (John 4.1-4).**

- A. Seeking and Saving the lost requires **AGENCY** and **AUTHORITY**. (1-2).
  1. Jesus (God's agent) baptized by God's authority (Luke 7.29-30).
  2. We are working with and for the Lord ourselves (1 Cor. 3.7-9).
  3. As Jesus labored under God's authority, we under Jesus' (Mat. 28.18-20).
- B. Seeking and Saving the lost requires **COMMITMENT** and **COURAGE**. (3-4).
  1. He was committed to leaving one place and going to another.
  2. He had courage to cross hostile territory to talk to the Samaritan woman.
  3. Our congregation is blessed to not have this issue at all.

- a) 1 Cor. 9.24-27 (becoming all things to all men to win some)
- b) Gal. 3.26-29 (the beauty of all benefitting from Christ)
- 4. Some things are of great **NECESSITY** (He needed to go through Samaria).

### III. Jesus Overcame Physical Fatigue (John 4.5-6).

- A. Walking up Mt. Gerizim (about 2900 ft. above sea level) made Him tired.
- B. Weariness is part of life, do not grow weary in doing good (Gal. 6.9-10).
- C. Jesus was resting, but He did not quit. (Mark 6.31—rest is necessary)
- D. Life is full of LIFE (1 Cor. 7.32-34). Use life as opportunities not excuses...
  - 1. Everyone has 24/7 in a day and week.
  - 2. Everyone has problems (Job 14.1).
  - 3. We are not the only ones going through problems (1 Pet. 5.9).
- E. We must overcome physical, emotional and spiritual issues to help people.
  - 1. Brethren we have to talk ourselves into doing what's right.
  - 2. Our fatigue must not override the will of God.
  - 3. We have to think of others more than ourselves (Phil. 2.1-3).
  - 4. We should allow others to encourage us as well (Jude 20).

### IV. Jesus Engages Conversation and Seeks Opportunities (John 4.7-8).

- A. Think on how to engage properly and effectively. **"Give Me a drink."**
  - 1. Positioning ourselves to help make people better. **Being Intentional**
  - 2. Pro. 11.30 - winning souls require wisdom and understanding.
  - 3. We must attempt to develop relationships in strategic fashions.
- B. Turning Every Life Circumstance into an Eternal Life Conversation.
  - 1. **Be intentional** when listening to people to help.
  - 2. Using problems in life to offer godly wisdom (Jm. 3.17-18).
  - 3. Be down to earth with people (Mark 12.37—common people heard Jesus)
- C. These opportunities require:
  - 1. Being bold as a lion (Pro. 28.1).
  - 2. Being wise as serpents and harmless as doves (Matt. 10.16).
- D. Authenticity is a must (John 1.47).
  - 1. Looking for opportunities to capitalize on the words spoken.
  - 2. Simply being pure in heart that others can benefit (Tit. 1.15).

### **Conclusion:**

Let's get excited about sowing the seed of the kingdom and genuinely attempting to bring lost souls to Christ. May the Lord help us to be like Jesus in evangelism and service to mankind and one another.