

## “The Fields Are Ripe for Harvest”

Zoe Center  
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### INTRODUCTION TO LESSON

**Life Group Lesson Objective:** To understand we have an opportunity to reap the harvest; and that Christ expects us to bear spiritual fruit.

**Life Group Leader Lesson Preparation:**

John 4:35 – Do you not say, “four months more and then the harvest? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields!” They are ripe for harvest. NIV

Matthew 28:18-20 Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 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, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” NIV

Matthew 9:37-38 Then he (Jesus) said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.” NIV

## “People are ready for Salvation”

They may not look like it, they might not act like it.... but the harvest **is** ready!

### **WEEK #1 – Let’s all get involved in the harvest**

Discussion Question: When Opportunity Knocks – Are you willing to speak up for Jesus?

Matthew 28:18-20 Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 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, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” NIV

- You will never realize the harvest is ripe unless you go!

## The Fields Are Ripe for Harvest ... – May 2023

- The Samaritan Woman “took” the opportunity to reap the harvest
- John 4:39 Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman’s testimony.
- Luke 10:9 – and heal those in it who are sick [authenticating your message], and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’

Are you ready to share your testimony? Are you ready to share “eternal life” with someone...remember when we die what happens...you know but do others know: your neighbors, co-workers, family members, strangers???

**Let’s be honest - Discussion Question: What is your testimony so that others might believe...share with your Life Group**

### **Week #2 – You May Sow, Others May Reap----The Harvest is Ripe**

Discussion Question: What Word has God given you to sow into His harvest.

God will instruct you:

- Isaiah 50:4-5 – The Lord GOD hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary: he wakeneth morning by morning, he wakeneth mine ear to hear as the learned. The Lord GOD hath opened mine ear, and I was not rebellious, neither turned away back.

The Lord is constantly speaking to us and giving us direction.

- John 10:3-5 – “To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice; and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out. And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice. And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers.”

We all have a part to play in reaping the harvest:

- 1 Corinthians 3:6 – I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase.

Be open to how God wants us to use your life as a follower of Christ and live for His Purpose.

**Let’s be honest - Discussion Question: Share an opportunity of how God used you to sow and/or reap the harvest for the Kingdom?**

### **Week #3 – Becoming a Fruit Bearer**

Group Discussion Question: What is your role to play as a “fruit bearer”?

The Fields Are Ripe for Harvest ... – May 2023

John 14:12 - verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.

**John 15:13** - Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

**Psalm 103:2 – Forget Not...all his benefits**

1. Forgiveness of Sins – have you been forgiven? Let others know about God’s forgiveness through Jesus Christ –
2. Has your broken heart been mended? – Tell others that Jesus came to heal the “broken hearted” – Isaiah 61:1-3
3. Has your body been healed? – Share with others that God is a healer of ALL our diseases. - Ps 103:3
4. God’s (divine) protection for you and your family? Give testimonies of how He protected you from hurt, harm and danger. – Ps 91, Ps 103:20
5. Has He been merciful to you? Share example of his mercy and peace towards you – Lam 3:22-23

**John 15:1-2** – “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit **he prunes**, that it may **bear more fruit**.

- Matthew 7:24** – “Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.

Blessed are those who follow the instructions of the Lord – Ps 119:2

**Let’s be honest - Discussion Question: Are you putting into action what you have learned? Give an example.**

**Week #4 – The Harvest may not look like you**

**Group Discussion Question:** - Are you comfortable going into the harvest that doesn’t look or speak like you?

Acts 20:19-21 – Paul preaching to the Jews and the Greeks

- Serving the Lord with all humility of mind...
- He kept back nothing that was profitable to them
- He taught them publicly
- Repentance towards God, and faith toward Jesus Christ

You may be new at “reaping the harvest”; but through prayer and preparation you can become a soul winner. You will become wise – Prov 11:30 And he who wins souls is wise.

You may be older and feel like you are not able or have the energy or capacity to reap the harvest; but let God’s word speak to your heart.

**Remember ....1 Corinthians 3:6 – I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase**

NASB

**1 Corinthians 9:19**

Though I am free of obligation to anyone, I make myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible.

**James 5:20**

Consider this: Whoever turns a sinner from the error of his way will save his soul from death and cover over a multitude of sins.

**Revelation 2:7**

He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who is victorious, I will grant the right to eat of the tree of life in the paradise of God.

**Psalm 92:14**

They will still yield fruit in old age; They shall be full of sap and very green,

***Let's be honest - Discussion Question: What can you do as a Life Group to reap the harvest?***