

Scripture Reading: John 4:27-40

Key Passage: John 4:35-36

Key Idea: Planning for the future means taking actions today

Opening:

- Gardening-planting and harvesting
- The contrast of quick vs slow

Scriptural Passage:

1. The Disciples went into the same village as the woman
2. The Disciples went into the city seeking food for the moment
3. The Disciples returned with food for the moment
- 4. Jesus' food is to accomplish the Father's work**
5. The Woman went into the same village as the Disciples
6. The Woman returned with people she invited to come see Jesus
7. Jesus challenged the Disciples' perspective before the crowd arrived

“Do you not say, ‘There are yet four months, and *then* comes the harvest’? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look on the fields, that they are white for harvest. “Already he who reaps is receiving wages and is gathering fruit for life eternal; so that he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together. (4:35-36)

Scriptural Lesson:

1. Following Jesus is much like farming: There is always something to do.
2. We aren't in charge of choosing our tasks, we need to check in with the Master Farmer to get our orders for each day
3. The Father's work is not merely found in reaping, it is also found in sowing.
- 4. If we want true nourishment, we need to go on the Jesus' diet**
5. Our human tendency is to make the “due” date the “do” date.
6. We spend too much energy dealing with other people's Urgent tasks and too little energy dealing with our Important ones

Application:

1. We need to lift our eyes, that is, we need to get out of the immediacy of the moment-or even our lifetime
2. We need to know our purpose
3. We need to always be planting the good seed
4. In order to plant good seed, we must have good seed to plant
 - a. the word (Mark 4:14),
 - b. the word of the Kingdom of Heaven (Matthew 13:19),
 - c. the word of God (Luke 8:11)