

**Outline of  
the Messages for the Full-time Training  
in the Fall Term of 2024**

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**GENERAL SUBJECT:  
THE CRUCIAL POINTS OF THE TRUTH IN PAUL'S EPISTLES—  
GALATIANS**

Message Fourteen

**Sowing unto the Spirit to Reap Eternal Life**

Scripture Reading: Gal. 6:7-10; 2 Cor. 9:6; Mark 4:26-29

- I. When the Lord was living on the earth, He was the Sower sowing Himself as the seed of life and the kingdom of God—Mark 4:26-29:**
- A. The kingdom of God is Christ Himself as the seed of life sown into us—vv. 26-29.
  - B. This is revealed in the parable of the seed in Mark 4:26-29:
    - 1. The man in verse 26 is the Son of God as the Sower who came to sow Himself as the seed of life in His word (v. 14) into our hearts so that He might grow and live in us and be expressed from within us.
    - 2. This seed is the seed of the divine life sown into the Lord's believers—1 John 3:9; 1 Pet. 1:23.
    - 3. The casting of the seed on the earth indicates that the kingdom of God is a matter of the life of God, which sprouts, grows, bears fruit, matures, and produces a harvest—Mark 4:26.
    - 4. Christ establishes the kingdom by sowing Himself as the seed of life into believing people so that the kingdom may grow; this is absolutely a matter of our growth in life, not of our work—1 Pet. 1:23; 1 John 3:9; Matt. 13:8.
    - 5. Regeneration is the entrance into the kingdom of God, and the growth of the divine life within the believers is the development of the kingdom of God—John 3:3, 5; 2 Pet. 1:3-11.
- II. Sowing covers the totality of our Christian life—Matt. 13:3, 37; Mark 4:3:**
- A. To sow is to put forth something that will grow and eventually be reaped.
  - B. Everything we do is a sowing either unto our own flesh or unto the Spirit:
    - 1. To sow for the fulfilling of the purpose of the flesh issues in corruption.
    - 2. To sow for the accomplishing of the aim of the Spirit issues in life, even eternal life—Gal. 6:7-10.
  - C. Our life, our work, and our behavior should be considered as a sowing of seeds; all that we say and do involves the sowing of seeds.
  - D. The human life is a life of sowing, a life of putting forth things that grow and produce a harvest—Matt. 13:37.
  - E. There are two kinds of sowing:
    - 1. On the one hand, we may sow unto the flesh to accomplish the purpose of the flesh; on the other hand, we may sow unto the Spirit with the Spirit as our goal:
      - a. In Galatians 3 the Spirit is for us to be born of God.
      - b. In Galatians 4 the Spirit is the Spirit of God's Son.
      - c. In Galatians 5 the Spirit is for us to live and walk.
      - d. In Galatians 6 the Spirit is for our aim, our goal.

2. To sow unto the flesh is to sow for the flesh, with the purpose of the flesh in view, fulfilling what the flesh covets.
  3. To sow unto the Spirit is to sow for the Spirit, with the aim of the Spirit, accomplishing what the Spirit desires.
  4. According to Paul's view, we sow by what we say and do and by what we are.
  5. The Spirit as our aim has much to do with sowing unto the Spirit.
  6. We need to be impressed with the serious fact that what we sow will return to us:
    - a. If we sow unto the flesh, we will of the flesh reap corruption.
    - b. If we sow unto the Spirit, we will produce a harvest of life eternal.
  7. The Spirit should be not only our life and walk but also the goal of our living; our goal is either the flesh or the spirit, not anything else.
  8. Sowing unto the Spirit includes calling on the Lord, praying, ministering Christ to others, and fellowshiping in life so that others may be edified.
  9. If the Spirit is our goal, everything in our daily life will become meaningful.
  10. It is crucial for us to realize that the Christian walk must be a walk by the Spirit and a life of sowing unto the Spirit.
- F. "So then, as we have the opportunity, let us do what is good toward all, but especially toward those of the household of the faith"—v. 10:
1. *The household of the faith* refers to the children of promise (4:28), all who are sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus (3:26).
  2. All the believers in Christ together constitute a universal household, the great family of God.
  3. This is through faith in Christ, not through the works of law.
  4. This household, as the new man (Col. 3:10-11), is composed of all the members of Christ, with Christ as their constituent.
  5. Hence, we should do good, especially toward those of this household, regardless of their race and social rank—Gal. 6:10; 3:28.
- G. The result of sowing unto the Spirit is a new creation—6:15:
1. We should sow unto the Spirit for a new creation.
  2. When we aim at the Spirit and sow unto the Spirit, the Spirit makes us a new creation.

**III. Second Corinthians 9:6 says, "He who sows sparingly shall also sparingly reap; and he who sows with blessings shall also with blessings reap":**

- A. Here Paul likens the ministering of material things to the needy saints to the sowing of seed.
- B. The sowing of seed is for our daily living.
- C. In verse 6 we have the thought of sowing for the benefit of others:
  1. To sow with blessings is to sow to others; this is to sow with blessings for others.
  2. When we sow, we should sow not merely for ourselves but with blessings for others.
  3. When we sow with blessings to others, we will reap with blessings from God.
- D. We can know, experience, enjoy, and express the God of blessing—vv. 9-11.