

OBADIAH

The Law of The Harvest

THE PASSAGE:

THE LAW OF THE HARVEST:

- ✓ We will always **GET** what we **GIVE**.
Obadiah 1:15/ Matthew 7:2/ Galatians 6:7-8/ Matthew 7:2/ Psalm 18:24-26

- ✓ The harvest seldom comes up **OVERNIGHT**.
Galatians 6:9/ James 5:7-8/ Psalm 37:7-9/ Revelation 6:9-10

THREE QUESTIONS

What Am I Planting?

- ✓ **PRIDE** or **HUMILITY**?
Obadiah 1:2-3/ Psalm 18:27/ James 4:6/ Proverbs 6:16-17 & Luke 18:9-14
Philippians 2:3-9/ Luke 14:7-11

- ✓ **INDIFFERENCE** or **COMPASSION**?
Obadiah 1:10-11/ Proverbs 21:13 & 28:27/ James 2:13/ Mark 1:32-39/ Luke 10:25-37 & 2 Thessalonians 3:10/ Matthew 5:7 & Proverbs 19:17 & 11:17 & 22:9

- ✓ **GREED** or **GENEROSITY**?
Obadiah 1:13/ Proverbs 14:31/ Ecclesiastes 5:10 & 1 Timothy 6:9/ Proverbs 15:27 & 28:22 & 28:25/ Proverbs 23:6-7 & 11:24-25 & 2 Corinthians 9:6

Life Group Study Questions

For the week of November 4, 2018

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

PRIDE AND HUMILITY

- Pride is an all too common struggle for most of us. Can you think of any ways that you see pride, arrogance or an untamed ego showing up in the world around you?
- Social media has made it possible for all of us to let our friends know about the wonderful things we're doing or the awesome toys we've purchased. How can we balance the use of social media to keep people informed on what's going on in our lives without it becoming a thinly veiled exercise in self-promotion?
- Author Thomas Merton observed that "pride makes us artificial and humility makes us real." What do you think he means?
- Larry looked at Luke 14:7-11 where Jesus tells a parable about entitlement. In what ways could people today also struggle with a sense of entitlement?

Luke 14:7-11 (NIV) - ⁷ When he noticed how the guests picked the places of honor at the table, he told them this parable: ⁸ "When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take the place of honor, for a person more distinguished than you may have been invited. ⁹ If so, the host who invited both of you will come and say to you, 'Give this person your seat.' Then, humiliated, you will have to take the least important place. ¹⁰ But when you are invited, take the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he will say to you, 'Friend, move up to a better place.' Then you will be honored in the presence of all the other guests. ¹¹ For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

Can you think of a time when you struggled with entitlement?

DIGGING DEEPER

1

One of the elements that can either help or hinder us from consistently planting well is the people we hang out with. As you read the following Proverbs, jot down what they say about the characteristics of people who help us plant well and those who could potentially hinder what we plant.

	Help	Hinder
Proverbs 10:17 - <i>Whoever heeds discipline shows the way to life, but whoever ignores correction leads others astray. (NIV)</i>		
Proverbs 10:23 - <i>A fool finds pleasure in wicked schemes, but a person of understanding delights in wisdom. (NIV)</i>		
Proverbs 14:1 - <i>The wise woman builds her house, but with her own hands the foolish one tears hers down. (NIV)</i>		
Proverbs 14:3 - <i>A fool's mouth lashes out with pride, but the lips of the wise protect them. (NIV)</i>		
Proverbs 14:16 - <i>The wise fear the LORD and shun evil, but a fool is hotheaded and yet feels secure. (NIV)</i>		

Based on these Proverbs, how would you describe the kind of friend who would help you plant well?

Which of these characteristics is most important for you to look for or to avoid?

How could these verses impact the kind of friend you want to be to others?

2

Larry talked about how the harvest doesn't come up overnight so we live most of our lives in the "in-between" time. This makes it challenging to patiently do the right things when we don't see the results that are promised or expected. Can you think of an area in your life in which you have had to wait a significant amount of time before seeing an answer or an area in which you're still waiting?

How could the following passages help us as we live life in the "in-between" time?

Psalms 37:1-6 - (NIV) ¹ Do not fret because of those who are evil or be envious of those who do wrong; ² for like the grass they will soon wither, like green plants they will soon die away. ³ Trust in the LORD and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. ⁴ Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart. ⁵ Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him and he will do this: ⁶ He will make your righteous reward shine like the dawn, your indication like the noonday sun.

Psalms 62:5-8 - (NIV) ⁵ Yes, my soul, find rest in God; my hope comes from him. ⁶ Truly he is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress, I will not be shaken. ⁷ My salvation and my honor depend on God; he is my mighty rock, my refuge. ⁸ Trust in him at all times, you people; pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge.

2 Corinthians 4:16-18 - (NIV) ¹⁶ Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. ¹⁷ For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. ¹⁸ So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

TAKING IT HOME

1 Looking back on this week's sermon and study, what's most important for you to remember?

→

→

→

→