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All words spoken by Jesus Christ are in **red text**.
(Hyperlinks are surrounded by parenthesis and are underlined.)

Introduction

To support human life, God not only designed a diverse range of plants, He also provided a means for them to reproduce and populate the earth by causing them to generate seeds.

“Then God said, ‘Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb that yields seed, and the fruit tree that yields fruit according to its kind, whose seed is in itself, on the earth’; and it was so. And the earth brought forth grass, the herb that yields seed according to its kind, and the tree that yields fruit, whose seed is in itself according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. So the evening and the morning were the third day.” Genesis 1:11-13



Seed-bearing plants:

- Are the most diverse and widespread group in the plant kingdom.
- Have successfully populated the earth—from deserts to rainforests.
- Fundamentally support human life by being the main source of the:
 - Oxygen we breath (via conversion of carbon dioxide into oxygen).
 - Food we eat (wheat, rice, corn, fruits, vegetables, nuts, and so forth).
- Produce seeds that:
 - Range in quantity from hundreds to thousands.
 - Utilize various mechanisms for seed dispersal: wind, water and animals.
 - Are able to remain dormant for long periods of time and will germinate when conditions are right.
- Are able to exponentially reproduce (the rate of growth increases as quantity grows).



Spiritual Relevance

Jesus referenced the planting of seeds multiple times to explain spiritual truths—which seems appropriate—because the One who introduced plants on the third day of earth’s creation, planned to implement a similar means to expand and populate His Heavenly Kingdom by casting His word as “seeds” that would land upon and enter humans (via eyes and ears), germinate within the heart and soul, and transform them so that they may spread His word as seeds to others. For Jesus declared, “**The seed is the word of God.**” Luke 8:11

When you think about it, Christians are like seed-bearing plants. Everything we say and do has the potential of landing upon and influencing others. In addition to sharing and teaching God’s word, examples of our seed casting activities include how we express:

- Faith in difficult times.
- Joy when negative emotions are expected.
- Kindness with those who are undeserving.
- Love when others assume different types of hatred will be exhibited.
- Hope when things seem hopeless.
- Forgiveness for those who are unforgivable.

In addition, it is important to recognize those who publicly claim to be a Christian are viewed by non-Christians with a critical eye for one of two purposes—for they are:

- Looking for hypocritical behavior as a reason to reject God and justify their sin.
- Seeking the existence of God and His transformative truths in the lives of others.

Therefore, “**Let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth.**” 1 John 3:18 And, “**Be doers of the word, and not hearers only.**” James 1:22

For we are God’s fellow workers and instruments of God’s Love as we obediently plant, water, and harvest (assist in the transformational born again experience) for God’s Kingdom. Plus, it is a wonderful blessing to plant seeds, water them and facilitate the harvest. However, one may plant, another may water, and someone else may harvest. But it is God (via the Holy Spirit) who is directly involved and responsible for all! (1 Cor. 3:5-9; 2 Cor. 9:10)

Jesus also provided us with a parable that provides spiritual insight by comparing 4 different soil conditions a seed may land upon—which correlates to the spiritual condition of the recipient of God’s seed. (Mat. 13:1-23; Mark 4:1-20; Luke 8:4-15)

Soil	Condition	Outcome
Wayside	Never reaches ground.	Seed is stolen by Satan.
Stony	Some soil mixed amongst rocks.	Hears and responds with joy, the seed does not take deep root, are unable to withstand life’s challenges (wind/rain), and stumbles (withers away).
Thorns	Soil is populated with weeds.	Hears the word and makes some progress. But sin—combined with the cares and deceitfulness of the world remains—which stifles spiritual growth.
Good Ground	Soil is prepared for the seed.	Hears and understands the word. The seed takes deep root, grows into plant that bears fruit, and produces more seed-bearing plants.

It is important to note that it is possible for a seed to land upon the wayside and remain dormant (God’s word remains within the heart and memory but has not germinated)—but the seed eventually moves to good ground (by various means), germinates and produces fruit for God’s glory. This scenario describes me when I first heard the Gospel of Jesus Christ. I rejected His truths and continued to live in darkness and sin. Later I encountered other persons who watered. But I continued in my destructive path because I was deceived by Satan’s lies. Years later I was at the “end of my rope” and facing dire consequences for my behavior. The soil was fully prepared for the seed of God’s word and His truths to take root in my heart and grow. I vividly remember when the words of Jesus in Revelation 3:20 spoke directly to me. **“I stand at your door and knock. Open the door so that I can enter and dine with you, and you with Me.”** A couple of days later I was sitting in the back row of a Christian church, and the pastor asked if anyone wanted to accept Jesus as their Savior and Lord. I remember my mind filling with reasons not to go forward—but then realized this was Satan who was unwilling to relinquish control. I got up, walked forward and stood before the pastor crying deep tears as I declared my belief in Jesus and my desire to accept Him as Lord over my life. Looking back...it was all directed by the Holy Spirit—because of the events in my life that caused me to turn towards God, and through those who planted and watered the seed of God’s word within me.

The Power of God’s Word

God’s word:

- Operates within the spiritual realm:
 - **“For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”** Hebrews 4:12
 - **“The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life.”** John 6:63
- Has an intended purpose: **“So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.”** Isaiah 55:11
 - Is the source of guidance for those who accept Jesus: **“All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.”** 2 Timothy 3:16-17
 - Will condemn those who reject Jesus: **“He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him—the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day.”** John 12:48

Planting the Seeds of God's Word

Here are important things to remember when you share God's word:

- You are being viewed with a critical eye that is looking for hypocrisy and/or truth.
- Evaluate the attitude of your heart and make sure you share Jesus in the Spirit of God's grace and His love.
- Never speak words that may convey your judgment or condemnation (only God has the right to judge).
- "Avoid foolish and ignorant disputes, knowing that they generate strife. And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient, in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, and that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will." 2 Tim. 2:23-26
- You may encounter an objection expressed in various ways and forms. These are not targeted at you, but are the consequences of darkness, sin and lies. As such, "Forgive them, for they do not know what they do." Luke 23:34
- Share the 4 spiritual truths:
 1. **God loves us** and desires a relationship with us.
 2. **We are all sinners**—which separates us from a relationship with God.
 3. **God crucified His Son**, Jesus Christ, so that we may be forgiven for our sins.
 4. **We must believe** in what Jesus did for us on the cross to receive God's grace and eternal life.

For more info read "4 Spiritual Truths" on UniqueBibleStudies.com



- Recognize our human intellect and pseudo "wisdom" is ineffective in the spiritual realm.
- Pray and ask the Holy Spirit for help.
- Remember:
 - God's word will pass through listening barriers and reach the depths of the heart and soul.
 - It is the Holy Spirit who saves a person and not us. We are simply God's "farmers."



"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord." 1 Cor. 15:58

"Therefore be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, waiting patiently for it until it receives the early and latter rain. You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand." James 5:7-12

"The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few; therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest." Luke 10:2

"Do you not say, 'There are still four months and then comes the harvest'? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest! And he who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, that both he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together. For in this the saying is true: 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored, and you have entered into their labors." John 4:35-38

We Serve A Wonderful God—With Whom We Will Spend Eternity!
Harold D. Thomas