



Calvary of Albuquerque

Spiritual Farming 101 - John 4:28-42

From the Series, Believe:879

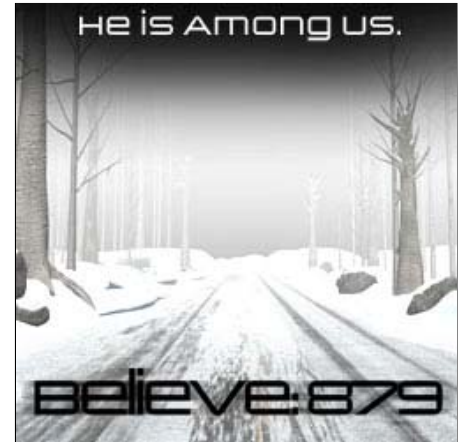
By Pastor Skip Heitzig

MESSAGE SUMMARY

Farmers live for the harvest season--a time when their crops are taken in and profits are made. But crops don't grow on their own. Seeds must be sown and plants must be garnered by a whole group of active farm workers. God is the head Farmer and we are His farmhands, all working together to produce a bumper-crop of people who believe that Jesus is the Savior--Are you in?

OUTLINE

- I. A Seed is Planted (vv. 28-30)
 - A. The Effect of One Conversation
 - B. The Effect of One Person
- II. The Farmhands are Busy (vv. 31-38)
 - A. God's Will Must be Finished
 - B. God's Field Must be Farmed
- III. A Harvest is Gathered (vv. 39-42)
 - A. Many Believed
 - B. More Believed



Talk Over These Things:

1. Of all the people Jesus could have spoken to and offered salvation to, why do you think He picked this woman to reach the people of Sychar? Was she a good pick?
2. Why do you think spiritual farming is so satisfying (v. 32)?
3. What do you think was the big "take away" lesson Jesus was teaching His disciples?

DETAILED NOTES

Farm life involves hard work, long days, and happy people. Sharing your faith is like working on a farm. Jesus uses agricultural language (harvest, sowing, reaping, laboring and rejoicing) to describe evangelism. All believers are called to preach Christ.

- I. A Seed is Planted (vv. 28-30)
 - A. The Effect of One Conversation - Jesus' conversation with the Samaritan woman had profound impact.
 1. Samaritan woman's conversion
 - a. She admits her sin
 - b. She admits her need for refreshment
 - c. She takes what she heard to others
 2. Samaritan woman left her water pot
 - a. She was coming back with others
 - b. She had found something better than water
 - B. The Effect of One Person
 1. Change in the woman's life
 - a. Her past
 - b. Her reaction
 2. Simple effective witness
 - a. "I met Jesus, He changed my life" (forgot her water pot in zeal for souls)
 - b. Jonah

- c. Paul
 - 3. One individual transformed by Jesus is noticeable and attractive
 - a. Stephen Baldwin
 - b. Someone we think is too far gone
 - c. Woman of Samaria
- II. The Farmhands are Busy (vv. 31-38) - (the witnesses were Jesus and the Samaritan woman, but not yet the disciples)
 - A. God's Will Must be Finished
 - 1. Nothing is more satisfying than leading someone to Christ
 - 2. Farm Terms used in parables
 - a. Field is the world
 - b. Good seed is the sons of the king and the word of God (His Word implanted in believers)
 - c. The harvest is now
 - B. God's Field Must be Farmed
 - 1. The problem is never that the harvest isn't ready
 - 2. The problem is that the workers are not ready
 - 3. Workers sow, labor, water and reap
 - 4. Farmhands need to go out to the field (Acts 1:8)
 - a. It took the disciples time to fulfill their calling to go to Samaria (Acts 8:1; Acts 8:5-6; Acts 8:14-15; Acts 8:25)
 - b. Jesus had 132 recorded personal encounters with people
 - i. Six at the temple
 - ii. Four at the synagogue
 - iii. 122 outside of spiritual buildings
- III. A Harvest is Gathered (vv. 39-42)
 - A. Many Believed
 - 1. When they heard the testimony of the Samaritan woman
 - 2. When they saw the change in her life
 - B. More Believed
 - 1. Heard the testimonies
 - 2. Experienced the Lord for themselves

Figures Referenced: Hudson Taylor, Stephen Baldwin, Dwight L Moody

Cross References: Matthew 9:27; Acts 8:1; Acts 8:5-6; Acts 8:14-15; Acts 8:25