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The voice of those who escaped from the iron curtain

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## Seed, Time and Harvest

Dear Friends, October 2022

We get so excited during this time of the year! It's Autumn season which means it's also harvest time. There's a crisp in the air and we can feel that changes are just around the corner. Harvest time signifies the reaping of the fruits of all our labor throughout the year. This time of the year reminds us of the importance of seed, time and harvest (Gen. 8:22) and we want to thank you all for being a BIG part of the harvest here at JMM! We could never do this alone but together, we are spreading the Gospel on various platforms and reaching people all around the world. In the last couple of years, the Lord has been using our Facebook Lives as a powerful tool to increase the virtual church, encourage believers and reach the nonbelievers with the Gospel of Jesus. Most importantly, hope has been ignited in the hearts of many during the Facebook Lives. Your partnership has been vital to the movement and growth of this virtual church, so we want to THANK YOU for your faithfulness!

For the one who sows to his own flesh shall from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit shall from the Spirit reap eternal life. Galatians 6:8

That's why it's important to sow seeds in the right season so that in DUE season, we will reap the fruits. If a farmer isn't sowing his seed in the good ground, tending and watering it during the right season, he can't expect to see the fruit of all his labor during harvest time. The same goes for us as believers. We need to be mindful of when, how and where we sow our seeds and how we are watering them. We're talking about confessing Scripture and praying over our seeds daily. If we think about it, we are sowing seeds everyday. Seeds can be almost anything, it doesn't necessarily always mean money. As believers, we are commanded to give our tithes and offerings, so that is something non negotiable. But above and beyond that commandment, we are sowing seeds everyday with our mouth and our actions. Speaking life over our situation or over someone else is a seed (Prov. 18:21). And in due season, we will reap every seed, whether good or bad (Gal. 6:9). The question is, are we planting seeds of life or death? Are we sowing seeds of love and hope or destruction and fear? Through our actions we can either sow seeds of rejection, hate and division or we can sow seeds of acceptance, love and unity to build up those around us, especially believers. Every seed will bear fruit and we do not have time to waste on sowing bad seeds!

Death and life are in the power of the tongue, And those who love it will eat its fruit. Proverbs 18:21

You might be saying, "Brother John and Sister Alexandra, I don't sow bad seeds, I always lend a helping hand. I'm always the first to help when there are people in need." The question back is this: What are you sowing with your mouth? As Christians we do not realize how much we are cursing (not by swearing) with our mouths! With all the prayer requests that come through on Facebook Lives or through phone calls and emails, there are some common questions we often encounter. Why aren't my prayers answered? Why didn't God heal me? Why didn't God heal my child? Why didn't I get that job? Not every prayer request is instantly answered. In the world we live in today, everything is instant. If you order something online, you can have it delivered to your front door on the same day! If you want to buy something, even if you don't have the money, you can buy it on credit! No waiting or saving required. If you think about it, during our grandparents time, this would not even have been an option. We're living in the time of "instant gratification", so it can be hard to wait on the Lord and be patient for His promises to be fulfilled in our lives. That's why it's so hard for people to grasp the understanding of waiting patiently on the Lord. This is what the Word tells us about waiting on the Lord,

"Be still in the presence of the LORD, and wait patiently for him to act. Psalms 37:7a

"But for you, O LORD, do I wait; it is you, O Lord my God, who will answer" Psalm 38:15.

Your words today shape your life tomorrow. When prayers are not **instantly** answered, people either blame the person that prayed for them or they start complaining about the situation. When we begin speaking negatively over the situation, we cancel out the prayers and promises that have been prayed. Those words are actually seeds that are corruptible (1 Peter 1:23) and go directly against the Word of God. Instead of speaking the WORD of God over the situation, people begin to speak death. I don't think I'll ever get healed of MY arthritis (never personalize any sickness or disease!). I won't ever have enough money to pay my bills. Those are words of death and they cancel out every single seed of life that has been prayed over the situation. We are to declare the Word of God so that our faith can be released through our words. And in due season, we will receive our miracle, if we do not give up (Galatians 6:9).

Romans 4:17 says, "...God, who gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did."

This is why we get so excited about this time of year and the teaching of seed, time and harvest! Just like the farmer we mentioned earlier that plants his seed in the right season and in the good ground, and waits patiently for the right season to harvest, the same goes with us as believers. We are to plant our seeds and water them with the Word of God (words of LIFE), without complaining and murmuring. Then we wait patiently for the harvest.

It is the same with my Word. I send it out, and <u>it always produces fruit</u>. It will accomplish all I want it to, and it will prosper everywhere I send it. Isaiah 55:11

It's important to continue meditating on the Word and confessing the Word of God DAILY over your situation or whatever you are confronted with so that your faith can be built up (Romans 10:17) The "waiting patiently" part can be hard. And you don't have to do it by yourself! If you need encouragement or prayer for anything in your life today, please don't hesitate to reach out and call our prayer line. We are here to help you and stand in agreement with you (Matthew 18:19) believing for your miracle. Don't let the enemy discourage you or condemn you for any shortcomings in your past. Don't let your past and guilt determine your future. Give Jesus permission to control your present and future!

Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, <u>believe that you have received it, and it will be yours</u>. Mark 11:24

As you sow your special seed this month, remember, it's harvest time! Expect great things to happen in your life and for overflowing blessings to overtake you! (Proverb 10:22) Remember, we are His children and we lack no good thing (Psalm 34:10). Regardless of what you have in your hands or what you see with your physical eyes, we serve the Most High God and He is the God of the SUPERNATURAL!

In His Service, John & Alexandra