

WONDERS

Title: **THE MIRACLE OF A PLANTED SEED**

Date: **September 1, 2024**

Leader's Tips:

- S** - Sensitivity with others. No one should feel left out.
- P** - Participation is encouraged during discussion.
- A** - Acknowledge guests. Make them feel welcome.
- C** - Confidentiality is key. What is shared stays in the group.
- E** - Encourage the group to pray for one another.

WORSHIP: (15 mins)

Venue Option 1: Home gatherings

Sing one or two songs or play a song from You Tube.

Venue Option 2: Public place (school, café, park, etc.) or Via Online, ask, "What is your "high" or "your "low" this past week.

WELCOME:(15 mins): Welcome everyone in the group.

Ice-breaker/ Humor: Q: *What types of boats do the disciples want to go on?* Ans. Discipleship and worship.

Key Verse: "Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life." John 12:25 NIV

WORD (30–45 mins) - Read John 12:23-26 NIV

Intro: Using the illustration of a grain of wheat that must die to produce many seeds, Jesus emphasized that His sacrificial death would bring forth spiritual life and salvation, rather than a political or military victory. Through His sacrifice on the cross, He established a spiritual kingdom and brought deliverance from sin, offering redemption and spiritual renewal to many.

Jesus' mission was to create a new kind of kingdom through His death, multiplying His influence by bringing eternal life to others. While they expected a different kind of deliverance, Jesus was referring to a spiritual kingdom that He would establish on earth through His sacrifice on the cross. His death will bring deliverance to many from sin and demonic bondage. Jesus multiplied Himself. He was the planted seed. **Read v.24** What can we learn from Jesus being the planted seed?

1. He chose to be planted in the will of God – He lived and died in accordance with God's will because He chose to.

He came to earth with the deliberate purpose of fulfilling God's will, which ultimately led to His death on the cross. He humbly subjected Himself to the will of His Heavenly Father.

Read Philippians 2: 6-8 NLT

Jesus calls all His followers to choose a relationship with God like His own. **Read v.25** – "Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life."

Q: What is your understanding of "living a life fully surrendered to the will of God?"

Q: Being a follower of Christ, do you sometimes struggle with fully surrendering your life to God's will on a daily basis?"

Application: Taking up our cross is not carrying a literal cross, but rather surrendering our own will, desires, and plans to God on a daily basis. Not our will but His will be done. This includes dying to our selfish desires and plans and live and according to God's plan and will for our lives. It's also about leading others to Christ through living godly lives and being a positive influence for others.

Q: Do you have someone in mind you can share Jesus this week?

2. He served God's purpose for His life— J

Jesus submitted Himself to the Father's authority and served Him faithfully. Jesus revealed His devotion and His life of service to God the Father during His 40-day fast when He was tempted by Satan.

Read **Matthew 4: 8-10 NIV**

Real devotion to God is more than an intention it is a life of serving Him (according to His will). Therefore, the Lord wants those who desire to follow Him to serve Him according to His will. **Read v.26**

Q: What are you passionate about in life?

Q: Have you discovered God's unique and amazing purpose and plan for your life?

Q: In what practical ways can you serve God's purpose for your life on a regular basis?

Application: The choice to follow Jesus must be followed by a decision to serve His purpose. We should all contribute our talents, gifts, and even resources to spread Christ's good news and therefore impact our world in Jesus' name.

Conclusion: If we emulate Jesus' devotion and service to God, He can help us multiply according to our kind—producing true followers who deny themselves, take up their cross daily, and follow Him.

Q: What is your take-away from the discussion? Partner with someone in prayer.

WORK: The Challenge (15 mins.)

P- Pray for one another. Ask "what can I pray for you?" (7mins.)

R- Remind to invite a friend on the next gathering.

A- Apply the message during the week.

Y- Yearn to share your faith with some