

Embracing a *Shavuot Vision* Renewing our *Focus* as Laborers in God's Harvest

- A. By *Praying* for an **outpouring** of God's Spirit and Power, as we gather a **Harvest** "for **Life Eternal**". (John 4:36)

Then **he** said to me,... "This is the **word of the LORD** to **Zerubbabel** saying,
'**Not** by **might** nor by **power**, by My Spirit,'
says the **LORD of hosts**. (Zachariah 4:6)

Gathering them together, **He (Jesus)** commanded **them (His disciples)**
not to leave **Jerusalem**, but to *wait* for what the **Father** had **promised**,
"Which," He said, "you heard of from **Me**;...

...you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you;
and you shall be **My witnesses** both in **Jerusalem**, and in all **Judea** and **Samaria**,
and even to the **remotest part** of the **earth**." (Acts 1:4, 8)

- B. By "*Planting*" faithfully the "**Seed**" of the Word of God
(i.e. the Gospel) through *Preaching* and *Teaching*

"Now the **parable** is this: the seed is the word of God." (Matthew 8:11)

How then will they **call on Him** in whom they have **not believed**?
How will they **believe in Him** whom they have **not heard**?
And **how** will they **hear** without a preacher?

How will they **preach** unless they are **sent**? Just as it is written,
"How BEAUTIFUL ARE THE **FEET OF THOSE WHO BRING**
GOOD NEWS OF GOOD THINGS". (Romans 10:14-15)

What then is **Apollos**? And what is **Paul**? **Servants through whom**
you believed, even as the **Lord** gave *opportunity* to each one.

I planted, **Apollos watered**, but **God was causing the growth**.
(I Corinthians 3:5-6)

...for you have been **born again**
not of seed which is *perishable* but *imperishable*, that is,
through the **living and enduring word of God**. (I Peter 1:23)

C. By *Participating* in the **ministry** of **producing** and **growing spiritually** the **Laborers** (i.e. *disciples*), who will *continue* the **work** of the **Harvest**.

Then **He (Jesus)** said to **His disciples**,
“The **harvest** truly *is* **plentiful**, but the **laborers** are **few**.”

Therefore **pray** the **Lord of the harvest**
to **send out laborers** into **His harvest**.” (Matthew 9:37-38)

Producing and growing spiritually mature Laborers/Disciples→

→ By **providing learning experiences** in the **word of God** (II Timothy 3:16-17)

→ By **promoting fellowship experiences** among **believers** (Hebrews 10:24-25)

→ By **promoting evangelism** and **outreach** among the **lost** (Romans 10:14-15)

→ By **preparing believers** for the **work of service**

And **He gave some** (gifted **people**) as **apostles**, and some as **prophets**,
and some as **evangelists**, and some as **pastors** and **teachers**,

For the **equipping** of the saints for the **work of service**,
to the **building up** of the **body of Messiah**; (Ephesians 4:11-12)

D. By *Patiently* and **faithfully Laboring**, even when times are **difficult**, and the **harvest** is “scarce”

Let us not **lose heart** in doing **good**, for in **due time**
we **will reap** if we do not grow **weary**.
(Galatians 6:9)

Therefore be **patient**, brethren, until the **coming of the Lord**.

The **farmer** waits for the **precious produce** of the soil, being **patient**
about it, until it gets the **early** and **late rains**.

You too be **patient**, **strengthen** your **hearts**,
for the **coming of the Lord** is **near**.
(James 5:7-8)

Closing Exhortation

