

## Developing Deep Spiritual Roots

We are going to continue to study how God intends for us to receive from him.

Through Jesus, God has already fulfilled every redemptive promise.

2 Corinthians 1:20 NLT For all of God's promises have been fulfilled in Christ with a resounding "Yes!" And through Christ, our "Amen" (which means "Yes") ascends to God for his glory.

Herein lies an amazing biblical truth, we are not waiting for God to fulfill his promises, he is waiting for us to believe and receive what he has already done.

Jesus gave us this amazing promise.

Mark 9:23 NKJV Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes."

Jesus created a sure fire way to receive from him, he created a law that would produce belief.

The law of conception.

1) God gave us his word that always produces after its own kind.

Luke 1:37 AMPC For with God nothing is ever impossible and no word from God shall be without power or impossible of fulfillment.

2) He gave us a place (our heart) for the seed to be conceived.

Proverbs 4:23 NIV Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.

3) God gave us a way to reap the harvest.

Romans 10:10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

A couple weeks ago we began to study the parable of the sower where Jesus talks about the different type of soils. The first soil did not produce because Satan stole the word before it could produce a harvest.

What we learned was that the first soil did not produce a harvest, because Satan stole the word (seed). You can't believe for a harvest if no seeds have been planted.

(Two farmers)

1 farmer plants his seeds.

2nd farmer doesn't plant his seed.

Do both farmers have the same right to believe for a harvest? What if he prays?

Do both farmers have a right to expect a harvest? No. What if the farmer with no seed prays?

We know this is true in the natural, Jesus teaches that the same thing is true in His kingdom.

John 15:7 AMPC **If** you live in Me [abide vitally united to Me] and My words remain in you and continue to live in your hearts, ask whatever you will, and it shall be done for you.

Jesus is saying no seed, no harvest.

**Now let's look at the second type of soil.**

Matthew 13:20-21 But he who received the seed on stony places, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; 21 yet he has no root in himself, but endures only for a while. For when tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he stumbles.

Jesus is saying that it takes more than initial excitement to have a fruitful harvest, the key to a fruitful harvest is a deep root system. (Terrariums)

Here is the spiritual reality, in order to have a spiritual harvest, you have to grow your own root system. Jesus is talking about how we develop belief and in order to receive you have to have your own belief system.

To develop a deep root system that will allow you to endure the trials of life is to keep the word in your heart, if you want a plant to grow strong, you have to keep the seed in the soil so that deep roots can be formed.

We live in a Christian culture where much of our belief system has been established through oral tradition. Your pastor teaches you what he knows and you may be able to recite it, the question is have you studied it until faith is developed?

God has made a way for everyone to receive from him, He has given spiritual gifts to people in the body of Christ where you can go and receive from them based on their faith. That is not God's best.

God made a way for every believer to develop their own faith root system.

Romans 10:17 So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

It is your faith in the word that allows it to produce the promise.

1 Thessalonians 2:13 AMPC And we also [especially] thank God continually for this, that when you received the message of God [which you heard] from us, you welcomed it not as the word of [mere] men, but as it truly is, the Word of God, which is effectually at work in you who believe exercising its superhuman power in those who adhere to and trust in and rely on it].

Believing God's word is what takes it from ink on paper and allows it to become alive and active, exercising its superhuman strength to produce after its own kind.

### **How is faith developed?**

John 15:7 AMPC If you live in Me [abide vitally united to Me] and My words remain in you and continue to live in your hearts, ask whatever you will, and it shall be done for you.

Jesus is teaching us how to conceive the promises of God and he is saying that receiving from him is conditional based upon two things.

1) Living in an intimate relationship with him.

2) Having seeds to sow.

Think about how conception happens in the natural world. If a woman wants to have a child can she just go for a walk with a man? Share a meal? In order for conception to happen she needs to leave the realm of proximity and enter into the realm of intimacy.

In order to develop deep spiritual roots you need to become intimate with the word.

You have to abide in Jesus (the living word) while sowing the seed of the written word.

I believe that every time I open up my bible that Jesus is present there watching over His word with me.

Jeremiah 1:12 AMP Then the Lord said to me, "You have seen well, for I am [actively] watching over My word to fulfill it."

Sometimes his presence seems tangible, sometimes it doesn't, but either way I know he is there because his word says he is.

I spend a lot of time talking with God about his word, reading, quoting and meditating on his word in his presence.

Jesus watches over his word by illuminating your imagination.

Ephesians 1:18 TPT I pray that the light of God will illuminate the eyes of your imagination, flooding you with light, until you experience the full revelation of the hope of his calling —that is, the wealth of God's glorious inheritances that he finds in us, his holy ones!

Jesus wants you to see yourself according to the word.

In order to experience health you have to see yourself healthy, the same thing is true of every promise.

Once the seed is planted do you have to wait for the harvest before you begin to dream about the harvest? Think about the 1<sup>st</sup> farmer, as soon as he gets his seeds in the ground, he begins to make plans for the harvest, he begins to dream about new equipment, maybe remodeling his house.

Think about a woman, when a seed is conceived does she wait until the child is born to begin to plan and celebrate? No, as soon as she gets a positive test she starts to celebrate with her family and friends, she begins to plan for the arrival of her child, paint is chosen, baby furniture is purchased and off you go.

As soon as your seed is planted you have a legal right to begin to celebrate that the promises are yours. Let the word of God paint a picture of every divine promise.