



FAITHFUL IN EVANGELISM

Preaching and Teaching Resources

ADRIAN ROGERS





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Faithful in Evangelism

SERMON REFERENCE: Psalm 126:5-6

LWF SERMON NUMBER: #1834

The wisest thing we could do in the eyes of God is to remain faithful in evangelism. Psalm 126:5-6 reveals the soul winner's promise: "Those who sow in tears shall reap in joy. He who continually goes forth weeping, bearing seed for sowing, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him."

The soul is of great worth; Jesus died upon the cross, paying the price with His blood and agony to show how much He desired our souls.

Our souls are also valuable because of their durability. When God made the human soul, He made it in His own image, therefore, it is endless, timeless, dateless, and measureless.

Every soul has the potential to be transformed into the likeness of Jesus Christ or to spend eternity in the pits of Hell.

We would be wise to evangelize because it is the command of Christ. We remember that we are programmed to *go forth* (Psalm 126:6); nothing takes the place of going. It's not enough to "live good lives," because our lives are not what save souls...salvation through Jesus's death and resurrection is what saves souls.

Adrian Rogers says, "We are to be spiritually distinct, but not socially segregated."

We cannot lose our passion. If we feel we've lost our broken hearts for the unsaved, we must beg God to break them again. We must ask God to give us the eyes of Jesus who, when He saw the multitudes, was moved with compassion. (See Luke 19.)

We must ignite our power, for we *bear seed for sowing* (Psalm 125:6). In this passage, the seed is the Word of God, and in that seed, there is life. Because there is power of life in the seed, there is power in the soul winner who scatters the seed.

Finally, we must hold fast to our promise: if we keep sowing, we will see a harvest. We should not concern ourselves with the soil, we just sow the seed, asking God to give us open doors and increase.

Life Application

Are you faithful in evangelism, recognizing your program, passion, power, and promise? Adrian Rogers says, "You let Congress make the laws; let the President try to run the nation. Let the Hollywood stars have the fame and let those guys play football. But if you are wise, you're going to win souls."



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1) INTRODUCTION

- a) Psalm 126:5-6
 - i) This is the soul winner's promise.
- b) If you are not endeavoring to win souls, you are not a wise person.
 - i) Proverbs 11:30
- c) Why is it wise to win souls?
 - i) Because of the great worth and value of a soul.
 - (1) The Bible does not call us wise if we become wealthy.
 - (a) It calls us wise if we win souls.
 - (i) Proverbs 11:30
 - (2) Mark 8:36
 - (a) One soul is worth more than all the world.
 - (3) Why is a soul so valuable?
 - (a) Desirability
 - (i) What makes a thing valuable is the price someone else is willing to pay for it.
 - 1. Does someone want it?
 - (ii) The Lord Jesus gave His life for you.
 - 1. 1 Peter 1:18-19
 - 2. He values your soul so much that He died, in agony and blood, upon the cross.
 - (b) Durability
 - (i) Your soul will last forever.
 - (ii) When God made the human soul, He made it in His image.
 - 1. Your soul could never cease to exist anymore than God could cease to exist.
 - (iii) Your soul will go on endless, timeless, dateless, and measureless.
 - (iv) There was a time when you were not; there never will be a time when you will not be.
 - (v) Your soul will exist forever, either in Heaven or in Hell.
 - 1. Hell is a real place of everlasting punishment.
 - a. Revelation 20:10
 - (c) Possibility
 - (i) What your soul can become.
 - (ii) Occupying your seat are three persons:
 - 1. The person you are now.
 - 2. The person you could be and will be if you give your heart to Jesus Christ.
 - 3. The person of vileness and wickedness that you will be ultimately if you turn from the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - (iii) There is nothing more sacred than a soul made in the image and likeness of God.
 - (iv) Each person has the potential of being transformed into the likeness of Jesus



Christ, if they will turn to Him as their Lord and Savior.

- ii) Because of the command of Christ.
 - (1) Soul winning is a command of our Lord.
 - (a) It is not a suggestion.
 - (2) Matthew 28:18-20
 - (a) The word “power” means “authority”.
 - (3) No one is wise who disobeys his Master.
 - (a) No matter how faithfully we attend church, how circumspectly we walk, or how liberally we may give, if we are not endeavoring to bring souls to Jesus Christ, then we are disobedient to Him and not wise.
 - (4) We are not following Jesus if we are not soul winners.
 - (a) Matthew 4:19
 - (i) If you are not a fisher of men, then you are not following Jesus.
 - (5) What right does a person have to call himself a follower of Jesus Christ if he willfully disobeys the Lord Jesus?
- iii) Because of the reward to the soul winner.
 - (1) There is no greater joy and no greater reward in this life and in the world to come than to be a soul winner.
 - (2) Daniel 12:3
- d) Luke 19:10
 - i) This is why Jesus came to this Earth.
- e) All of the Bible can be put into two words:
 - i) Come
 - (1) Come to Jesus.
 - ii) Go
 - (1) Go tell others.

2) THE SOUL WINNER'S PROGRAM (PSALM 126:6)

- a) Psalm 126:6
 - i) “He that goeth forth.”
 - ii) You will never be a soul winner until you get to it; go forth.
- b) Nothing will take the place of going.
- c) Some people say that instead of going out soul winning, they just want to live a good life so that others will see their life and come to Jesus.
 - i) People are not saved by your life, they are saved by His death.
 - ii) If you do not tell people how you live the life that you live, then you're taking praise under false pretenses.
- d) You will never be a soul winner until you start.
- e) Mark 16:15
 - i) When the Lord said to “go” and make disciples, it literally means “as you go”.
 - ii) Soul winning is like sowing seed.
 - (1) You sow seed in the field.



- (a) You don't sow seed in the barn.
 - (2) The field is the world.
- iii) He is not talking about going to a foreign field as a missionary, but as you go into the everyday sphere of your life, you endeavor to win souls.
- f) What's wrong with many of our churches is that we have become sacred societies for snubbing sinners.
 - i) We somehow think that to be a good Christian, we must disassociate ourselves from those who are lost.
 - (1) But we are to go into all of the world.
 - ii) The problem with sinners is not their sinning.
 - (1) Their problem is that they do not know Jesus.
 - (2) How are they going to hear about Jesus unless we tell them?
 - iii) We are to be spiritually distinct, but not socially segregated.
 - (1) There is a difference between insulation and isolation.
 - (2) We're to go.
- g) Luke 14:23
- h) Some people think that instead of going out to win souls, the lost should come to church.
 - i) There is no Scripture in the Bible that tells the lost to come to church.
 - ii) There are many Scriptures in the Bible that command the church to go to the lost.
 - (1) The command is not for them to come, but for us to go.

3) THE SOUL WINNER'S PASSION (PSALM 126:5-6)

- a) Psalm 126:5-6
 - i) "He goeth forth and weepeth."
 - ii) We have lost our passion today; we've lost our tears.
- b) Jesus wept over Jerusalem.
 - i) Luke 19:41
 - (1) The word for "weeping" here is great, convulsive tears.
 - (2) The Lord sobbed from deep down.
 - ii) Luke 13:34
- c) Acts 20:31
 - i) The apostle Paul was not too intellectual to weep.
- d) When was the last time you shed a tear over a lost soul?
- e) In the Old Testament, Jeremiah was known as the weeping prophet.
 - i) Jeremiah 9:1
- f) Tears touch the heart of God.
 - i) Isaiah 38:5
- g) If you do not have a broken heart for the lost, then go to God and confess it as a sin.
 - i) Ask God to give you the eyes of the Lord Jesus who, when He saw the multitudes, was moved with compassion.
 - (1) Matthew 9:36
 - ii) A person who does not have tears for the lost does not have the Spirit of Jesus Christ in them.
- h) The tragedy today is a dry-eyed church in a Hell-bent world.



4) THE SOUL WINNER'S POWER (PSALM 126:6)

- a) Psalm 126:6
 - i) The “precious seed” is the Word of God.
- b) In the parable of the sower, Jesus said that the seed is the Word.
 - i) Matthew 13:18-23
- c) There is power in that seed.
 - i) Hebrews 4:12
 - (1) The Greek word for “quick” in this passage is the word “zoane” from which we get our words “zoo,” “life,” and “zoology.”
 - (2) “Powerful” is the Greek word “energes”.
 - (a) There is life in a seed.
 - ii) Because there is life in a seed, there is incredible power.
- d) The Word of God is quick and powerful, and that is the power a soul winner has.
 - i) There is power in the Word of God.
 - ii) If you will keep scattering the seed, it will sprout and give life.
- e) What good is a seed if we don’t sow it?
 - i) It is not what you know but what you sow that counts.
 - ii) We are to know it in the head, stow it in the heart, and sow it in the world.
- f) You only reap if you sow.
 - i) Galatians 6:7
- g) If you want people to believe, then you have to give them something to believe.
 - i) The power is in the seed.

5) THE SOUL WINNER'S PROMISE (PSALM 126:6)

- a) Psalm 126:6
 - i) The soul winner shall have results.
- b) Not everyone that we witness to is going to be saved.
 - i) Not everyone Jesus witnessed to was saved.
 - (1) The rich, young ruler went away sorrowfully.
 - (a) Matthew 19:16-22
 - ii) Mark 4:3-8
 - (1) It is not our job to analyze the soil; it is our job to sow the seed.
 - (2) In this parable, the sower is Jesus Christ Himself.
 - (a) He did not say, “That’s bad soil, so I won’t put any seed on it.”
 - (b) He just sowed the seed.
 - (c) We do not know who will come to Christ, so we need to just sow the seed.
- c) Everywhere we go, we need to sow the seed.
 - i) Ask God to give you an open door.
- d) It is God who gives the increase.
 - i) We can’t make a seed grow, but we can sow a seed.
 - ii) 1 Corinthians 3:6
 - iii) We are dependent upon Him.



- e) If we keep sowing, then we will have a harvest.
 - i) “They that sow in tears shall reap in joy.”
 - (l) Psalm 126:5
- f) You get more joy out of leading a person to Christ than you got when you got saved.
 - i) Because you know more about what is happening to them than you knew what was happening to yourself when you got saved.
- g) Psalm 126:6
 - i) A sheave is a bundle of wheat.
 - ii) When harvesting wheat in Bible times, they would bundle it up and lay it there.
 - (l) They were waiting for the Lord of the harvest to come.
 - (a) The Lord of the harvest is coming again, and all of those bundles will be caught up to meet Him.
- h) If your joy is gone and you’re discontented, feeling as though you’ve never really found the purpose in life, then give yourself to soul winning.
- i) You cannot be a faithful Christian unless you’re endeavoring to bring souls to Jesus Christ.

6) CONCLUSION

- a) There are Christians who are not afraid to die because they know that they have been saved.
 - i) But they’re ashamed to die because they’ve not been soul winners.
- b) Ask the Lord to help you win just one person for Christ.
 - i) When you’ve won that person for the Lord, then ask Him to help you win another.
- c) But if you do not yet know the Lord Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior, you can today.
- d) Pray to Him now, and ask Him to come into your life.
- e) Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
 - i) Romans 3:23
 - ii) Romans 10:9-10
 - iii) Romans 10:13
 - iv) Acts 16:31
 - v) John 3:16



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We've been in a series of Bible studies under the heading, "Faithful to God's Family," and we've been talking to you about some factors of faithfulness. Several Sundays ago, we talked about faithful in Bible study. And then we talked about faithfulness in worship. Then we talked about faithfulness in fellowship. And today, faithfulness in evangelism, soul winning.

Would you take God's Word and find Psalm 126. We're going to look in verses 5 and 6. Psalm 126 verses 5 and 6. Here's one of the great promises in the Word of God, "They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him." Listen to it again, "They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. And he that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him." That is the soul winner's promise. Let me ask you a question: do you consider yourself a wise person? Now I didn't ask are you a smart person. I didn't even ask: do you consider yourself a successful person, or a happy person. Do you consider yourself a wise person? Or let me put it another way. Does God consider you a wise person? I want to tell you something very frankly, if you are not endeavoring to win souls, you, sir, you, lady, are not wise. The Bible says in Proverbs chapter 11 and verse 30, "He that winneth souls is wise." Hey, did that get into your heart? May I say it again? "He that winneth souls is wise." Why is this true?

First of all, because of **the great worth of a soul**. It's better to win a soul than to win a Super Bowl. Listen to me, a soul is worth more than a Super Bowl championship. Think about it. Think how everybody is so concerned about football, but the Bible does not say if you win the Super Bowl, you're wise. It doesn't say if you get wealthy, you're wise. It says, "He that winneth souls is wise." Jesus, when He spoke of the great worth of a soul, said in Mark 8 verse 36, "What should it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul? And what was He saying there? That one soul is worth more than all the world, all the stocks, the bonds, the rubies, the diamonds, the banks, the schools, and the sports emporiums put together; one soul!

Why is a soul so valuable? Well, what makes anything valuable? First of all, is it **desirable**? Does someone want it? Well, you say, "How can we tell whether someone wants something?" The price they'll pay for it. Any appraiser will tell you that in making an appraisal of a piece of property, the prime question is: what is someone willing to pay for it? Isn't that true? What is someone willing to pay for it? What was the Lord Jesus willing to pay for you? First Peter 1 verses 18 and 19, "Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, such as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; but with the precious blood of Christ, as a lamb without blemish and without spot." Jesus with His blood, in agony and blood, died upon that cross because that's how much He valued a soul.

A soul is valuable not only because of desirability, but it's desirable, it's valuable because of **durability**. What is going to last forever? These buildings are not going to last forever. The clothes you wear are going to disintegrate. Your gold and silver will turn to canker. What will last forever? A soul! When God



made the human soul, God made it in His own image, and your soul could never cease to exist anymore than God could cease to exist. Your soul will go on endless, timeless, dateless, measureless. When the sun, moon, and stars have grown cold, your soul will still be in existence. There was a time when you were not. There never will be a time when you are not. Your soul will exist forever, either in Heaven or in Hell. You say, "Do you believe in everlasting punishment in Hell?" Indeed, I do. Revelation chapter 20 and verse 10, "And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night forever and ever." The beast and the false prophet are human beings who will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

You see desirability, durability. I'll tell you another thing that makes a soul so valuable. It's **possibility**; what your soul can become. Occupying the seat that you're in this morning are really three persons. You say, "Well, no wonder it's so crowded." There are three persons there. There's the person you are now. There's the person you could be and will be if you give your heart to Jesus Christ ultimately. And there is the person of vileness and wickedness that you will ultimately be if you turn from the Lord Jesus Christ. The person sitting next to you is the most sacred thing you will ever see on this Earth apart from the face of Jesus when He comes. The person sitting next to you is the most sacred thing you will ever see. There's nothing more sacred than a soul made in the image and the likeness of God. Think, that that person next to you has the potential of being transformed into the likeness of Jesus Christ, or the horrible potential of spending an eternity in the very pits of Hell.

You're wise to win a soul because of the value of a soul. You're wise to win a soul because of **the command of Christ**. You see, soul winning is a command of our Lord. It is not a suggestion; it is a command. Matthew 28 verse 18 through 20, "And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, 'All power is given unto Me in Heaven and in Earth.'" The word power literally means "authority". "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the world."

No one is wise who disobeys his master. No one is wise who is guilty of high treason against Heaven's King. I don't care what else you're doing. I don't care how faithfully you attend. I care not how circumspectly you walk. I care not how beautifully you sing. I care not how liberally you give. If you are not endeavoring to bring souls to Jesus Christ, you're disobedient to Him and you are not wise. "He that winneth souls is wise." You're not following Jesus if you're not a soul winner, for He said in Matthew 4 verse 19, "Follow me, and I will make you to become fishers of men." Did you hear that? "Follow me, and I will make you to become fishers of men." If you're not a fisher of men, do not tell me you're a follower of Jesus. Hello! If you're not a fisher of men, do not tell me that you're a follower of Jesus. Jesus said, "Follow me, and I will make you to become fishers of men." It cannot be more clear. What right does a man have to call himself a follower of Jesus Christ who willfully disobeys Jesus Christ? "He that winneth souls is wise." Because of a value of a soul. Because of the command of Christ.

And because of **the reward to the soul winner**. There is no greater joy, no greater reward in this life and in the world to come than to be a soul winner. In the book of Daniel chapter 12 and verse 3, put this in your margin, the Bible says, "And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars forever and ever." Many are talking today about football stars, but they will come and go. I played football. I put a lot of expense into football, and I'm



not talking about money, I'm talking about blood, sweat, and tears; cups of blood and buckets of sweat on the football field. I got some awards. I played on a championship team. Had the privilege of being captain. Got a gold football. Got a sweater with some letters sowed on it. Got a silver cup. Got some other things; some certificates and all of those things. Got a football, the game ball. I can see it right now. There it is, the game ball; they gave it to me. Let me tell you what happened to all that stuff. Somebody broke in the house and got the football. It's gone, the gold football. I loaned the other football to some guys who wanted to play touch. Never seen it again. The moths got the sweater. And where the loving cup is I have no idea, no idea. It's gone.

But, friend, "Those who win souls will shine as the brightness of the stars of the firmament forever and ever and ever." You let Congress make the laws. Let the President try to run the nation. Let the Hollywood stars have the fame. And let those guys play football. But if you are wise, you're going to win souls, you're going to win souls. I am telling you, when you get to the bottom line, why did Jesus come to this Earth? "The Son of man is come to seek and to save that which is lost." Luke 19:10. And you can put all of the Bible into two words: come and go. Come to Jesus and then go tell others. That's what it is. "He that winneth souls is wise."

Now go back to the verse that we read, and we're going to look today at the soul winner's promise. And there are four things I want you to see in this passage of Scripture. First of all, I want you to see what I'm going to call **the soul winner's program** in Psalm 126 verse 6, "He that goeth forth." You'll never be a soul winner until you get at it, until you go forth. Nothing will take the place of going. You say, "Well, I don't necessarily go out to be a soul winner. But I do want to live a good life so people will see my life and come to Jesus." Hey, I've got news for you. They're not saved by your life, but by His death. And if you do not tell them how you live the life that you live, you're taking praise under false pretenses. You'll never be a soul winner until you start. Put this verse in the margin, Mark 16 verse 15, "And He said unto them, 'Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature.'" And when He gave the great commission, He said, "Go and make disciples." It literally means "as you go."

Now, He's talking here about a person sowing seed; soul winning is like sowing seed. Well, where do you sow the seed? In the field. You don't sow the seed in the barn; you sow the seed in the field. We need to get this seed out of the barn and out into the field. Where is the field? The field is the world. He's not talking about going to be a missionary to some foreign field. He's talking about just as you go into the everyday sphere of your life, you win souls.

You know what's wrong with so many churches? We have too many hugs and hallelujahs and not enough heartaches for those on the outside. And many of our churches have become sacred societies for snubbing sinners. We get together in our holy huddles and we talk about how wonderful it is to have all of this truth. And we somehow think that to be a good Christian we are to disassociate ourselves from those who are lost. We've somehow gotten the idea that we put the salt in one barrel and the fish in another. But we are to go into all of the world. We are to go into the highways and the hedges.

You say, "But those people are so sinful. Pastor, they drink, they curse, they tell dirty stories, they gamble, they sleep around." Of course they do. They're sinners. That's what sinners are supposed to do. I mean, you think about it. They're sinners. What else do you expect them to do? They don't know what you know. They're trying to find satisfaction. They think maybe drinking will do it. They think maybe gambling will do it. They think that maybe hilarity and funny stories will do it. They think that the things



of this world will do it. Pity them. They don't know what you know. Their problem is not their lying, their drinking, and their carousing; their problem is they don't know Jesus. They need to know the Lord Jesus Christ. And how are they going to hear of Jesus unless you tell them? We are to be spiritually distinct, but not socially segregated. What we're talking about, friend, is insulation and not isolation. We're to go.

Somebody told about a little boy who told his mother, who wanted him to go somewhere, he said, "I ain't going." She said, "What did you say?" He said, "I ain't going." She said, "Johnny, listen, 'I am not going', 'you are not going', 'they are not going', 'we are not going'." He said to me, "It looks to me ain't nobody going." That's what it looks to me like in the average church. Just ain't nobody going. We've got to get up and go! Luke 14 verse 23, "And the lord said unto the servant, 'Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in.'" You say, "Well, we bought and built this place of worship. Let them come." I can't find a shred of Scripture in the Bible where the Bible tells the lost to come to church, not one! I can find many where the Bible commands the church to go to the lost.

I want to ask you a question: do you find it hard to get to church on Sunday morning? Isn't it harder to get to church on Sunday morning than to work on Monday morning, especially if you have children? When we had our little children, we had to start on Saturday night to get there on Sunday morning. And many times when we got there, we had to get there because we'd lost our religion getting there, Amen? I mean it, and we want to go! We have a desire to be here. What about these others who really don't care? We ought to thank God if they do come, and for some reason they come seeking the Lord, that is wonderful, because the Holy Spirit has drawn them. But the command is not for them to come; it is for us to go. And so, there is the soul winner's program. Got it? "He that goeth forth."

Now here's the second thing I want you to see. It is **the soul winner's passion**. Look at it again in 126 verse 6, "He that goeth forth and," what is that next word, "and weepeth." Back up to verse 5, "They that sow in tears shall reap in joy." Do you know what is wrong today? We have lost our passion. We've lost our tears. It is amazing how few tears are shed today when we have so much to weep over. Are we afraid of our tears? Are we afraid that somebody will think we're too emotional? Are we afraid that somebody will think that we're fanatics? I wonder if Jesus was afraid of that when He wept over Jerusalem. I see Jesus as He comes over the brow of the Mount of Olives and He sees the city, Jerusalem. And the Bible says in Luke 19 verse 41, when He saw the city, "He wept." And the word for weeping there is great convulsive tears. Our Lord sobbed from down deep, as great tears coursed down His cheeks, as He looked at Jerusalem and said in Luke chapter 13 verse 34, "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, how oft would I have gathered you, even as a hen does her chicks under her wings, but ye would not."

I think of the great apostle Paul. Was he too intellectual, too high and mighty to weep? A man with a triple Ph.D., the equivalency of it. He said in Acts chapter 20 and verse 31, "Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears, with tears." When's the last time you ever shed a tear over some soul that was mortgaged to the devil? Jeremiah in the Old Testament was known as the weeping prophet. He said in Jeremiah chapter 9 and verse 1, "Oh that my head were waters, and mine eyes a fountain of tears, that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people!" Tears touch the heart of God.

King Hezekiah was told he was going to die, and he prayed, turned his face to the wall and prayed. And in Isaiah chapter 38 verse 5, God told Isaiah, "Go say to Hezekiah, 'Thus saith the Lord, the God of David, thy father, 'I have heard thy prayer; I have seen thy tears.'" I wonder, has God seen your tears?



If you don't have a broken heart for the lost, I would suggest that you go to God and confess it to God as a sin. And ask God to give you the eyes of the Lord Jesus who, "When He saw the multitudes," the Bible says in Matthew 9:36, "was moved with compassion." And if you do not have tears for the lost, it is because you do not have the Spirit of Jesus Christ in you.

There's the soul winner's program: "He that goeth forth." There's the soul winner's passion: "He that goeth forth and weepeth." The tragedy today is a dry-eyed church in a Hell-bent world. Turn on the television and see the debauchery. Pick up the newspaper and see the tragedy. Look around you and see the confusion, the heartache, the despair, the marching, milling multitudes who do not know. Your heart will be moved with compassion.

Third thing I want you to see. Not only the soul winner's program and the soul winner's passion, but **the soul winner's power**. Where is the power? Look in Psalm 126 verse 6, "He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed." What is that seed? The seed is the Word of God. In the parable of the sower, in Luke 8:11, Jesus plainly said, "The seed is the Word," and there's power in that seed. Hebrews 4 verse 12 says, "For the Word of God is quick, and powerful." The word quick is the word zoane. The word powerful is the word energies. Zoane is the word we get our word zoo from, or life, or zoology. There's life in a seed. And because there's life in a seed, there is incredible power. "The Word of God is quick and powerful." And that is the power that the soul winner has. There is power in the Word of God. I have preached it long enough to know that if you keep scattering the seed, it will sprout and give life, and sometimes the hardest heart will crack.

I read somewhere recently about a countess, a very wealthy woman who knew she was going to die, and she was afraid that somehow her grave might be disturbed. And so she had the money to have a sarcophagus built around her casket. And she had it encased in heavy slabs of stone. And then, once this stone was put together, she had great steel bands put around those slabs of stone with that casket encasing her body on the inside. And then she had inscribed on that sarcophagus, "This grave sealed for eternity." But there was a hairline crack, and a small little seed fell in the hairline crack of that great monolithic stone encasement. And a little seed found enough moisture to begin to sprout. And it put its little tendrils down and it began to grow and expand until the roots of a mighty tree just broken asunder that encasement, and a great tree grew up, and that grave was split apart by the power of a little seed.

You know, I've seen that happen. I've seen people come in here with hearts like concrete with steel bands around them. I've seen the Word of God get in, just a little seed, just a seed. Oh, the soul winner's power! There's power in the Word of God! But now, listen, what good is a seed if you don't sow it? It is not what you know; it is what you sow that counts. You are to know it in the head, stow it in the heart, and sow it in the world. That is the soul winner's power. You only reap if you sow. Galatians chapter 6 verse 7, "Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." If you want people to believe, you've got to give them something to believe. The power is in the seed. The power is in the seed.

There's the soul winner's program: "He that goeth forth." There is the soul winner's passion: "And weepeth." There's the soul winner's power: "And beareth precious seed." Now I want you to see **the soul winner's promise**. What is the soul winner's promise? Look again in Psalm 126 verse 6, "He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed," here's the promise, are you ready for it, "shall doubtless," underscore the word doubtless, "doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him."



Friend, you shall, and doubtless, have results. Now that doesn't mean that everybody you witness to is going to get saved; they are not. Not everyone that our Lord witnessed to got saved. The rich, young ruler went away sorrowful. He could never have had a better witness than the Lord Jesus gave to him.

Our Lord, in the Gospel of Mark, gave a parable of a sower who went forth to sow. And as he scattered the seed out of his basket, some fell by the wayside; that is, the soil was hard, and it couldn't get in. Others fell on stony ground; it got in but it couldn't get down because beneath the soil in the subsurface was a rocky ledge. Other seed fell among thorns and it sprouted, but then the weeds and the briars came and choked it out. But some fell on good ground and it brought forth fruit. David, it's not our job to analyze the soil; it's our job to sow the seed.

In that parable, the sower was Jesus Christ Himself. And He didn't say, "Well, that's bad soil. I won't put any seed on it", or "that's rocky soil", or "there's thorns", He just sowed the seed. Folks, you don't know. You don't know. Many times the person you think is ready to come to Christ, that soil looks so warm and moist and fertile; underneath is a rock ledge. You can't see it, but they're so hard. But sometimes the soil that you don't think is going to sprout will just bring forth and blossom and bloom and bud and bear fruit. Just sow the seed. Just sow the seed. Everywhere you go, just sow the seed. Ask God to give you an open door. It is God that gives the increase. You can't make a seed grow, but you can sow a seed. The apostle Paul said, "I've sowed, Apollos watered, but it is God that gives the increase." We are dependent upon Him. But there is this promise. If you'll keep sowing, beyond the shadow of any doubt, you will have a harvest. What a joy it will be when you win your first soul to Jesus Christ if you've never done that. I mean, when somebody says to you, like we heard in the words of this song, "Thank you for giving to the Lord. I'm so glad you did." When somebody puts a bear hug on you and says, "Thank you for telling me about Jesus," there's nothing like that.

I preached to big crowds sometimes. I preached as many as 500,000 people at one time. But I'm going to tell you the truth before God, the greatest joy that I get is hand-picked fruit, when I speak to one person face-to-face, heart-to-heart, and tell that person about Jesus Christ. I've had some thrills. I've had some honors. But nothing is sweeter, more wonderful than introducing somebody to Jesus Christ. They that sow in tears will reap in joy. Did you know that you get more joy out of leading a person to Christ than you got when you got saved? That's true. You get more joy out of leading a person to Jesus Christ than you got when you got saved. And why is that? Because you know more about what is happening to him than you knew what was happening to you at that time. Isn't that true? You know more now about what is happening to him than you knew what was happening to you when you gave your heart to the Lord Jesus Christ. And you know that later on he will discover what he received in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Now He says, "We're going to come with rejoicing, bringing our sheaves with us." What is a sheave? It's a bundle of wheat. You're harvesting wheat and you bundle it up and lie it. And then you harvest another and you bundle it up and lie it there. And why do they do that? They're waiting for the Lord of the harvest to come. And when the Lord of the harvest comes and all those bundles are caught up to meet the Lord of the harvest, what a day that will be. What a day that will be! I mean, when the battle's over, we shall come rejoicing bringing in the sheaves. And to lay the golden grain at Jesus' feet and hear those people say, "Thank you for giving to the Lord." Again in Psalm 126 verse 6, "He that goeth forth



and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.”

Say, if your joy is gone and you’re discontented and you feel that you’ve never really yet found the purpose of life. You’re successful in business. You’re envied by your neighbors. And yet, your heart is empty. Give yourself to soul winning. You cannot be a faithful Christian, a faithful member of this church unless you give your heart to bringing souls to Jesus Christ.

There’s an old song that haunts me, and I hope it’ll haunt you. One line in that song says this, “Must I go and empty-handed, must I meet my Savior so; without one soul with which to greet Him, must I empty-handed go?” I was by the bedside of a dying man who loved God with all of his heart, but he wasn’t a soul winner. And in a strange dichotomy, he had been saved, but he’d never won souls. He said to me, “Pastor, I’m not afraid to die, but,” he said, “I am ashamed to die because I haven’t been a soul winner. I’m not afraid to die. I know I’m saved, but I am ashamed to die because I haven’t been a soul winner.”

“Must I die and empty-handed, must I meet my Savior so; without one soul with which to greet Him, must I empty-handed go?”

Please don’t ask God to help you to win ten people. Please ask Him to help you to win one, just one. And when we get that done, we’ll start on another, Amen! “He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.”

Would you bow your heads in prayer? Heads are bowed and eyes are closed. If you’re not certain that you’re saved, would you like to be saved, would you? Would you like to know that you really do have life? Jesus said, “I’ve come that you might have life.” Could I lead you in a prayer? We’ll call this prayer the sinner’s prayer. And you can pray and accept Christ as your personal Lord and Savior. You can do it right now. Would you pray this prayer? “Dear God, I know that You love me. Thank You for loving me. And I know that You want to save me. Jesus, You died to save me and You promised to save me if I would trust You. Jesus, I do trust You. I believe You’re the Son of God. I believe you paid for my sin with Your blood on the cross. I believe that God raised You from the dead. And now I receive You as my Lord and Savior. Forgive my sin. Cleanse me. Come into my life. Take control of my life and begin today to make me the person You want me to be. And Jesus, give me the courage to make it public. Help me never to be ashamed of You. In Your name I pray, Amen.”



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