

Notes from the Sunday Service “The power of reaching out: An eternal force” from Dr. John Kirkpatrick.

Study Outline

GCC Sermon: Sunday 10th Nov. 9am & 11am

Speaker: Dr. John Kirkpatrick

Title: The power of reaching out: An Eternal Force

Prophecy for GCC:

- Increased effectiveness
- Kingdom advancement
- Greater Mission Calling. Nations (here and overseas) are calling
- Increasing numbers saved
- Shift from evangelistic anointing to apostolic anointing
- Our efforts cubed - geometric growth
 - a steady growth, numbers and quality

1 Corinthians 14.29

- How do you feel about this prophecy?
- Do you understand what it all means, and what part you could play in it?

The Gospel – An eternal force

We have seen the incredible force of Typhoon Haiyan – destructive, and (fortunately) brief.

God’s power is eternal, constructive, life giving, all powerful. Romans 1.16

See also Romans 8.31. (This is a fact we should never doubt or forget)

God anointed Jesus, Acts 10.38. How did he show his anointing?

He was powerful in both word and deed. See James 2.14-26.

How can we show the anointing of God in our lives? Hebrews 10.24

Can we encourage others if we don’t show love and do good deeds ourselves?

How have others encouraged you?

The five laws of reaching out

1. *God never commanded unbelievers to go to church.*

Instead, Matthew 28.19, what did he command us to do?

We have a personal mandate from God

2. *We reap according to the seed sown.*

If you sow peas, what do you expect to grow? The seed determines the fruit.
What harvest do we want to reap spiritually?

So what seeds do we need to sow in order to reap that harvest?
What seeds did Jesus sow? And what did he reap?
What was Jesus' goal? Do we have the same goal?

3. We reap more than we sow.

What were the apostles sowing? Acts 4.20,29-30
What did they reap? Acts 4.31-37

On the positive side, Barnabas sowed seed in Jerusalem, and it reached out into the world, as he travelled with Paul preaching the gospel

But we can also reap what we sow negatively. See 2 Samuel 12.9-12. Sin always has consequences, and even though David repented, he reaped what he had sown, a truly terrible harvest affecting himself and his family.

4. We reap in relation to our perseverance. Galatians 6.9-10.

Do you ever grow weary in well doing?

Are you ever discouraged when nothing seems to be growing from all your seed planting?
Genesis 39:1, 20. Joseph had reason to be discouraged, but he didn't sow the seed of discouragement, instead, 39.2-3, 21-22, he allowed God to use him in the hard places, and God brought about a mighty harvest through him. Genesis 50.20

We don't always see instant fruit – sometimes the time of waiting seems incredibly long, but the harvest will come. Hebrews 12.1, James 1.2-4,5.11. Some translations use the word 'patience', others 'perseverance'. In other words, never give up (as Winston Churchill advised in another context. Never, never, never give up.) God's word to Israel was often, as in Deuteronomy 1.21.

What happens when we are discouraged?

Remember that God knows the result. He isn't bound by time. He always answers our prayers. **True?**

Sow seed, and fruit will come. Just persevere and don't be discouraged.

5, For our church, *We must commit ourselves in faith to sow for next year's harvest* 2 Corinthians 9.6.

Read also the encouragement in 9.7 and the promise in 9.8. Hebrews 10.22-25

What should our attitude be, when we do our sowing?

How about when the harvest is slow in coming?

Notes prepared by Paul Anslow

So, sow generously, reaching out in God's name. Sow love and good deeds. With faith, nothing is impossible. But remember, faith must be grounded on God's promise, not our good ideas. Matthew 19.26, Luke 1.37, 18.27