

## Mount Olive Wednesday Night Bible Study and Prayer Meeting

June 24, 2020

At Church and on Conference Call

Pastor Tom began tonight's Study, the first held at the church building since March 11, 2020, by asking each participant *how it was with their souls*. Twenty-four people answered in varied ways yet with one common element...God has been with us through this trying time and will not leave us nor forsake us. Amen!

### **John 4: 35 - 38**

***35 Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.***

***36 And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together.***

***37 And herein is that saying true, One soweth, and another reapeth.***

***38 I sent you to reap that whereon ye bestowed no labour: other men laboured, and ye are entered into their labours.***

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### **Verse 35**

***“Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.”***

\*Pastor Tom brought to our minds that cherry season has begun and the fruit is ripe for picking.

\*Jesus came into the world for this purpose(reason):

So we, His people, do not reap the wages of sin (death)

What do you have at the end of life if not the hope Jesus?

\*We are put in the world for a purpose (reason):

We are here to be the workers to proclaim the Gospel to all people.

\*Physical eyes see physical things. But spiritual eyes can see spiritual things. However, if you do not have the Holy Spirit, you can't see spiritual things.

#### Matthew 9: 35 - 38

*“35 And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. 36 But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd. 37 Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; 38 Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.”*

#### Verse 36

\*The sheep represent people, for example the people who have been protesting/rioting lately. Jesus had compassion on them as we need to have compassion with justice on them.

#### Verse 37

\*The Spiritual harvest is the harvest of souls. If you do not harvest, the fruit gets too ripe and rots, goes to waste. Our purpose is to be laborers to reap the harvest.

#### Verse 38

\*Lord of the Harvest - We must pray to God to send (and be) the ones who love the Lord enough to be workers in the field ripe for harvest.

#### II Corinthians 6: 1-2

*“We then, as workers together with him, beseech you also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain. 2 (For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)”*

\*Paul understood he was called to be a worker through his spiritual eyes and ears.

\*Sometimes...someone else has to step in or follow after....

## **Verse 36 & 37**

***36 And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together. 37 And herein is that saying true, One soweth, and another reapeth.***

\*We cannot expect a garden to grow by itself. We have sowers who plant the garden and reapers who harvest the crop. And in between we have to weed! Pruning is a spiritual thing. Adam was put in the Garden of Eden to tend to it...pull weeds. Pastor Tom disclosed how weeding did him good, helping to shut out the 'noise' of everything going on in his life.

\*The Scriptures are not talking about a physical garden... we have to read with spiritual eyes.

## **I Corinthians 6:20**

*“For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.”*

\*The reaper's wage, or pay, is experiencing someone come to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.

\*Even though the reaper gets the wage, it also took someone to plant or sow the seed of faith before the harvest was ready to reap.

\*Pastor Tom exhorted us to be praying for whomever will follow him at Mount Olive Church. He shared his vision for the property with Josh Plummer recently. He feels someone younger needs to see and carry through with the vision the church can have. Pastor Tom loves the church very much. His worst legacy would be that Mount Olive Church would not continue to flourish when he is no longer pastoring there. Someone has to sow and someone has to reap...that's just how it is!

## **Verse 38**

***“I sent you to reap that whereon ye bestowed no labour: other men laboured, and ye are entered into their labours.”***

\*Jesus is talking to the disciples here; fishermen, tax-collectors, you & I

They didn't sow the seeds but later on they become sowers in a different field in a different time.

Next week we'll get back to the Samaritan Woman.

Reminders:

Sunday, June 28 - Sunday School via ZOOM @ 9:00 AM

- Sunday Worship, Outdoors, @ 10:30 AM

Wednesday, July 1 - Bible Study, @ Church & Conference Call

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*May the Lord watch between me and thee,  
While we are absent one from the other.*