



Leading People into a Growing
Relationship with Jesus Christ!

Antioch CELEBRATION Message: Growing Obsession

Sermon Series: OBSESSION – God’s Pursuit of YOU

Dates: April 8-9, 2017

Start the Conversation

“Jesus’ death was all about getting us made-right with God, but His resurrection was all about getting our living made-right with God.” Pastor John Seitz

What did Jesus’ death accomplish? What did Jesus’ resurrection accomplish?

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“Made-right-ness” is living like a person who has been pursued and captured by God.

I said, ‘Plant the good seeds of righteousness, and you will harvest a crop of love. Plow up the hard ground of your hearts, for now is the time to seek the Lord, that he may come and shower righteousness upon you.’ But you have cultivated wickedness and harvested a thriving crop of sins. You have eaten the fruit of lies—trusting in your military might, believing that great armies could make your nation safe. **Hosea 10:12-13 (NLT)**

Remaining in Jesus is the way we plant and sow seeds of “made-right-ness.”

Jesus said, “Remain in me, and I will remain in you. For a branch cannot produce fruit if it is severed from the vine, and you cannot be fruitful unless you remain in me. Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in me is thrown away like a useless branch and withers. Such branches are gathered into a pile to be burned. But if you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask for anything you want, and it will be granted!” **John 15:4-7 (NLT)**

The real lasting and good fruit comes from following the one who knows exactly what seeds need to be planted.

The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you. And just as God raised Christ Jesus from the dead, he will give life to your mortal bodies by this same Spirit living within you. **Romans 8:11 (NLT)**

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When you follow the desires of your sinful nature, the results are very clear: sexual immorality, impurity, lustful pleasures, idolatry, sorcery, hostility, quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissension, division, envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other sins like these. Let me tell you again, as I have before, that anyone living that sort of life will not inherit the Kingdom of God.

But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things!

Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to his cross and crucified them there. Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives. Let us not become conceited, or provoke one another, or be jealous of one another. **Galatians 5:19-26 (NLT)**

As we think of the harvest God wants in our lives, what are the "seeds" we can plant that will give us a good harvest of:

- Healthy relationships?
- Emotional health?
- A soft heart and teachable spirit?
- Intellectual growth?
- Strength to battle temptations?

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Planting and harvesting are not just for us! While God is interested in individuals, he is also interested in the welfare of families, cultures, and nations. What seeds do we need to plant so that our children and grandchildren will walk with Jesus?

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In the time of Hosea, God's own people were trusting in their military power to keep them safe while disobeying and disregarding God's truth. However, when a nation forgets God, it is only a matter of time before God's blessings disappear. God says in his Word:

Don't be misled—you cannot mock the justice of God. You will always harvest what you plant. **Galatians 6:7 (NLT)**

Who are you responsible for influencing?

What next step can you take to present a better example of trusting God in your life?

Pray!

Take some time and pray for each other and humbly thank God for his kindness in your life!