

A generous person experiences a great harvest.

“**Give**, and it will be **given** to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap...”
Luke 6:38

They **share freely** and **give generously** to those in need. Their good deeds will be remembered forever. They will have **influence** and **honor**. *Psalm 112:9*

A great harvest depends on how you sow.

Remember this—a farmer who plants only a **few** seeds will get a **small** crop. But the one who plants **generously** will get a **generous** crop. *2 Corinthians 9:6*

“...For with the **measure** you use, it will be **measured** to you.”
Luke 6:38

A great harvest depends on your heart.

You must each **decide** in your heart how much to give. And don't give **reluctantly** or in response to pressure. “For God loves a person who gives **cheerfully**.” *2 Corinthians 9:7*

A great harvest depends on contentment.

And God will generously provide all you **need**. Then you will always have everything you **need** and plenty left over to **share** with others. *2 Corinthians 9:8*

“*One of our central spiritual decisions is determining what is a reasonable amount to live on.*” — Randy Alcorn

A great harvest depends on God.

For **God** is the one who provides seed for the farmer and then bread to eat. In the same way, he will provide and increase your resources and then produce a great harvest of **generosity** in you. Yes, you will be enriched in every way so that you can always be **generous**. *2 Corinthians 9:10-11*

What will the result be?

People will be blessed and God will be praised.

So **two good things** will result from this ministry of giving—the **needs** of the believers in Jerusalem will be **met**, and they will joyfully express their **thanks to God**. *2 Corinthians 9:12*

What kind of **harvest** do you want?

One Year New Testament Devotionals

Small group discussion questions related to the weekend message will resume in January 2018 during our next 10-week group cycle. Small group registration opens December 30. Use these One Year New Testament questions to discuss with your small group or answer individually.

Devotional

What exactly is the “good life?” Is it earning enough money to do what you want when you want? Is it getting married and settling down in the perfect home? Is it having season tickets or getting the corner office? However you define it, you certainly desire it. The good life ceases to be good, however, when human relationships are broken. Life is about relationships, and no amount of achievement or material gain can fix broken hearts. Peter said the good life is living at peace with people. If we love life, we will love others and seek to be at peace with them. Living in peace means becoming a “bridge-builder.” The ultimate reason we are to seek relationships with others is that God sought a relationship with us.

November 19: James 2:19-3:18

What is the best way to make a lasting positive impression on others? What can someone learn about you by listening to you speak? What do you need to remove from your speech habits this week to make your words more pleasing to God?

November 20: James 4:1-17

How has your belief about what God wants from you changed over the years? Given how long you think you could live, how can you plan for the future with humility and faith? What aspects of your life plans do you need to present to God in prayer this week?

November 21: James 5:1-20

What do you possess that money cannot buy? How does your use of money reflect what is important to you? What changes can you make in your habitual use of money to please God?

November 22/23: 1 Peter 1:1-2:17

Why is it important for you to live a good life? How does your past compare to your present? How could being disobedient to God cause someone else to stumble?

November 24/25: 1 Peter 2:18-4:11

In your opinion, what best distinguishes Christ-followers in this world? What does it mean to be submissive to another person? What does it not mean? How prepared are you to explain your hope in Christ?