

Principles of Multiplication, Part 1

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I. Introduction.

- A. The need of the hour is men and women who will be disciples who bear fruit for Jesus Christ.
- B. Fruitfulness means character (Galatians 5) and influence (Proverbs 11:30).
- C. Everyone of us is helping or hindering someone to be like Christ. Influence. (Proverbs 11:30)
- D. Text: Matthew 13:36-38, John 12:24-26.

II. We are “seeds.” If you are a child of the king Jesus, you are a seed among other things.

III. Jesus is the farmer.

- A. The seed does not choose where it gets to go.
- B. The farmer decides where the seed will go.
- C. Fruitfulness demands availability.

IV. The field is the world. We must be available to serve wherever God wants us.

V. Unless the seed dies, it abides alone. If it dies, it bears much fruit.

- A. The seed loses its own identity to bear fruit.
- B. We have to be open-handed about our possessions, activities and relationships.
- C. We must deny self. (Luke 9:23)

VI. The seed that dies forms deep roots. (Isaiah 37:31)

- A. Fruit is a result of relationship with Christ. (Romans 7:4)
- B. We must develop our secret life with Christ.

VII. The seed bears life. (Mark 4:28)

- A. The process is as important as the product.
- B. It is a mistake to compare fruit with other Christians because everyone is in different seasons.
- C. God has each person where he or she needs to be.

VIII. One bears fruit in season. (Psalm 1:1-3, Jeremiah 17:7-8)

IX. Multiplication. God chose us to bring forth fruit. (Genesis 1:29)

Application questions:

1. How does the seed illustration help us to see that we are not in control of our ministry?

2. What does it mean to die to oneself?

3. What areas of your life may God be calling you to die to yourself? Spend some time in prayer and write your reflections below.
