



**THE REDEEMED CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF GOD**  
**CHRIST THE LORD PARISH**  
**LAGOS PROVINCE 20**

**LEKKI PHASE 1**

**DATE:** TUESDAY MAY 28, 2024  
**THEME:** EXPLOSIVE GROWTH DRIVE  
**TOPIC:** MAXIMIZING THE HARVEST - PART 2  
**LABOURING EFFECTIVELY FOR SOULS**  
**TEXT:** Jn. 4:34-36

**INTRODUCTION**

**Definition:** To **maximise** is to: make as large or great as possible. It also means to: make the best use of.

God has commanded us to work in His field, the world, to produce a great harvest of people brought into His kingdom. He said the harvest is plenteous. But what does it take for us to have a bounteous harvest? It starts with you seeing rightly, we dwelt on this in our Digging Deep last Tuesday. But it doesn't stop at that because faith without works is dead.

**HOW TO LABOUR EFFECTIVELY**

**1. See the harvest as the priority of life.** Matt. 9:36-38, Jn. 4:34, 1 Cor. 9:16

a) Many years ago we used "To Do List" to manage tasks in the organisation I worked for, but later this was changed to "Priority List". Reason being that not everything on your "To Do List" may be a priority task.

A priority task is a task that must be done because it is both urgent and important.

b) Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. But it was when he saw the crowds, the multitude of people, who needed to be saved from the eternal death camps he was

moved. When you and I see the people as Jesus saw the crowds it will move us

**2. See the harvest as a perishing harvest.** Jn. 4:35

a) Jesus said that the harvest is ripe. Know that once harvest is ripe and not harvested it starts perishing.

b) If reaping is delayed, the grain begins to turn a pale white, and will soon fall over on the ground.

To speak of the fields "white" unto harvest is to stress the imperative of getting into the fields before it is too late. Jesus is reminding us that the harvest is perishing daily.

c) Statistics reveal that over 150,000 people die each day with approximately 66,000 of them dying without having heard the Gospel. Only God Himself knows how many of the rest have heard the gospel but have not genuinely embraced salvation. But one thing is for sure - over

66,000 of the harvest are perishing all over the world every single day!!!

- d) Indeed, "... hell hath enlarged herself, and opened her mouth without measure...and multitude are descending into it." (Isa. 5:14)
- e) Therefore realize that the King's business requires haste. 1 Sam. 21:8

### 3. **Be proactive.** Lk. 14:23

- a) What does it mean to be proactive? According to research on proactive behavior, "being proactive involves self-initiated, future-focused, and change-oriented behaviors."
- b) Don't just stay in the Church, go to the fields. Jn. 4:35, Matt. 28: 19,20 Acts 8:26-30. We can't just sit back and wait for the opportunities to come to us. We need to go out into the fields. We need to engage with people. We need to share the love of Christ with them.

### 4. **Take every day as the right season and right time.** 2 Tim. 4:2

### 5. **You must go them – to the fields.** Matt. 28:18-20, Lk. 14:23

### 6. **You must have physical sensitivity.** Jam. 2:14-16

- a) Religious people can be very mean and cold-hearted. You must not be like the Pharisees but like Jesus and you must also do as He did – be sensitive to the physical needs of the people too.  
Matt. 11:5, Matt. 14-13-25,
  - i. There are people today who are looking for a miracle:
  - ii. Some are looking for a solution to their financial problems
  - iii. Some are in desperate need of a solution to their marital problems.
  - iv. Some are facing a terminal diagnosis and are looking for a solution to their health problems.

Serving others points people to Christ – Matt. 5:16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

### 7. **You must cultivate keen spiritual sensitivity.** Jn. 15:5

- a) You must move in the Spirit to reap the harvest.
- b) The Holy Spirit should be the one prompting you. Acts 8:26-40, Acts 18:5
- c) The Holy Spirit will tell you where not to go yet. Acts 16:6
- d) The Holy Spirit will make you hear the cry of the lost. Acts. 16:9
- e) The Holy Spirit will reveal to you the unseen and unsaid concerning the people you are ministering to. Jn. 4:16-19

Through the Holy Spirit, the Lord will give you the key to unlock every heart. For the woman, it was her relationships. The private pain and emptiness of each person expose their need for "living water."

## CONCLUSION

Friends, the fields are ripe for harvest. The opportunities are there. Let's not waste them. Let's seize the moment. Let's take advantage of the opportunities that God has placed before us. Let's work the fields for the harvest.

The fields are white for harvest. The opportunity is right in front of us. We don't have to wait for four months. The time is now. The harvest is ready. We just need to lift our eyes and see it.

Jesus wanted these men to know that there was great work to be done! Today there are many, many more people in the field than there were in Jesus' time. And these people are in great need! They are like sheep with no shepherd! These people are on a path that leads to destruction!

**And today, more than any time in history, EVANGELISM IS A NECESSARY WORK!**