

A hand holding a stalk of wheat in a field at sunset. The background is a warm, golden glow from the setting sun, creating a soft, hazy atmosphere. The hand is positioned in the lower right, reaching towards the center where it holds a single stalk of wheat. The overall scene is peaceful and evocative of sowing and growth.

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Seed to the Sower

RACHAEL PICO

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Life Abundant Ministries

Mail correspondence to:
Life Abundant Ministries
4357 East Dansville Road
Webberville, MI 48892

Email correspondence to:
info@life-abundant.org

Visit our website at:
www.life-abundant.org

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Seed to the Sower

By Rachael Pico

Jesus Christ, Lord of the Harvest, gives us seed and expects us to sow it.

Now he that ministereth seed to the sower both minister bread for your food, and multiply your seed sown, and increase the fruits of your righteousness.

–2 Corinthians 9:10

As I am writing this, Spring is right around the corner and – I don't know about you, but – I'm already starting to think about my garden.

I'm thinking about what kind of seeds I'm going to plant. I'm thinking about dirt, and what I need to do so that it is good, rich soil. I'm thinking about the fence I'll need to protect my garden from the groundhog that feasted on just about everything I grew last year. And, most importantly, I'm thinking about all the veggies I'm going to get: tomatoes, cucumbers, carrots, bell

peppers, green beans, peas, onions, and broccoli. I'll bet I'm making you hungry!

Now, I would be a fool to spend my time and money on seed and soil, and fence and fertilizer, and not expect any kind of a harvest.

I know plenty of people who would be legitimately surprised if they threw out an apple core and years later a tree had grown there. But that is exactly the way God planned it from the beginning.

Genesis 1:11

11 And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth: and it was so.

Then, after he had made man and woman:

Genesis 1:28

28 And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the

sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

We all know how that worked out. The whole thing kind of fell apart, except for the part about being fruitful and multiplying. Since its introduction into His design, seed has continued to bear fruit after its kind. We have a planet full of fruits, vegetables, plants, animals, and people, because of seed.

Even though Satan wanted to destroy God's creation in the

beginning and throughout history, the law of seedtime and harvest has prevailed. Satan has tried to steal from us, and he has tried to kill us, and he has tried to destroy us, but he has not been successful. And it was the Seed of God's original creation who stripped him of his power, and it was that incorruptible seed – meaning Jesus – who has given us that authority, again, over Satan.

While the enemy ultimately failed, he still believes he can put up a fight. He has deceived many of us into thinking we

have to provide for ourselves all on our own. We have forgotten about seed. We don't realize that everything is seed that produces after its own kind. What we need to know is where to get seed and how to sow it.

Abram's Seed

Let's look at Genesis 12. If we want to learn about receiving and sowing seed, we are going to have to start with Abram.

Genesis 12:1-4

1 Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy

kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee:

2 And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing:

3 And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

4 So Abram departed, as the LORD had spoken unto him; and Lot went with him

In Abram's day, a lord was someone who owned many fields and needed people to work them. The lord gave a person land and seed to sow, as well as the tools and teaching to make it grow. No expense was spared to make the sower prosperous – if he did well, so did his lord. In gratitude, the sower would give his lord the best portion, or tithe, of his increase. This would make the lord greater and allow him to provide good seed to others. The sower got to keep 90 percent and the lord was satisfied with 10 percent.

God offered His lordship to a man, and Abram responded.

In Genesis 14, we learn that some small-time kings rebelled against a more powerful king, Chedorlaomer. They failed, Lot was captured along with all the other people in Sodom, and Abram came to their aid.

Chedorlaomer was defeated, the people and their property were freed, and Abram and his men came home with a lot more stuff of their own. (This is the Cliff's Notes™ version.)

Abram then went to the high priest, the king of Salem, Melchizedek, and gave him his

tithe. Let's look at what happens next:

Genesis 14:21-23

21 And the king of Sodom said unto Abram, Give me the persons, and take the goods to thyself.

22 And Abram said to the king of Sodom, I have lift up mine hand unto the LORD, the most high God, the possessor of heaven and earth,

23 That I will not take from a thread even to a shoelatchet, and that I will not take any thing that is thine, lest thou

shouldest say, I have made Abram rich.

Abram tells the king of Sodom that he doesn't want to have anything to do with him. Essentially, the king of Sodom wanted to buy the people – and certainly for no godly reasons – but Abram is not willing to make that exchange. This is because he knows that those people have an unlimited value in the eyes of the LORD God, to whom he just gave tithes of all – the best portion of his increase. Abram knew that when you put a price tag on

something, its value is immediately limited.

Unlimited Potential

I once did some painting at our church. When I found out that they were accepting bids from professional contractors, I thought, “I could submit a bid with a really low number, save the church some money, and still have some extra cash to pay bills. It’s a win-win.” After much prayer, I was led to put a certain dollar amount on the proposal. At the last minute, right before I submitted my bid to the church, God told me to

sow it – which threw me for a loop. I was thinking (meaning, I was complaining to God), “What about our bills? We could really use that extra money!” And in that moment, He gave me a revelation.

God told me this: “I know you are in need of the extra money. In one moment, you will earn it, and in the next it will be spent. And what will you do the following month? Sure, you could charge for your services. But how much more could you get if it were a seed?”

God showed me that if I were to put a price on my labor, and

take payment, its value would be limited. But as seed sown into God through my church, it has unlimited value. A harvest will come back to me that would be greater than I could generate on my own.

In a heartbeat, I became a joyful giver! I was excited to give because I knew that we didn't have enough to make those bills. But I also knew that God gives seed to the sower. And just because I didn't have the money to sow a seed, didn't mean I couldn't bless the church with my hands of service. And let me tell you, I

painted that room with precision, with love, and with joy in my heart, because I wanted this to be the best seed I could give.

See, everything is seed!

Abram understood this, which is why he gave a tithe to his Seed Provider, and sowed into Him by freeing the people and property of Sodom. Now, some of them (including Lot) took their stuff and went back to Sodom anyway, which is another story for another time. But Abram relied on God to make him continually

prosperous, not on a one-time payment from an evil king.

Seed to the Sower

After his showdown with the king of Sodom, Abram had a talk with his LORD:

Genesis 15:1-3

1 After these things the word of the LORD came unto Abram in a vision, saying, Fear not, Abram: I am thy shield, and thy exceeding great reward.

2 And Abram said, LORD God, what wilt thou give me, seeing I go childless, and the steward of my house is this

Eliezer of Damascus?

3 And Abram said, Behold, to me thou hast given no seed

Abram made a demand on his LORD – he had thankfully given a tithe and was ready to receive seed for sowing. In this case, Abram wanted an heir to carry on the family business. It was then God showed Abram the stars of the sky and told him to count them – that would be the number of the seed. Now, let's remember, seed is taken from a small portion of a harvest. Abram's faithfulness would lead to such

a bountiful harvest that his seed could equal all the stars in the universe.

Jesus Teaches on Seed

In Luke 8, after teaching on the parable of the types of soil, Jesus says that the seed is the Word of God. Some seed falls by the wayside, some gets choked out by thorns and thistles (cares of this world), some seed has no root and does not last, and some seed finds good soil, and bears bountiful fruit with patience.

In Matthew, Jesus taught on a specific kind of seed (one

that grows disproportionately large in relation to its small start) that reflects how His Kingdom operates.

Matthew 13:31-32

31 Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is like to a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and sowed in his field:

32 Which indeed is the least of all seeds: but when it is grown, it is the greatest among herbs, and becometh a tree, so that the birds of the

air come and lodge in the branches thereof.

This is seedtime and harvest in the overflow: What is sown into God grows greater than what is sown into the world. Good seed sown into good soil produces an abundant harvest.

Sowing vs. Saving

These days, unless we work in agriculture, we may not know much about seedtime and harvest. Our work is rewarded with money. We either spend it on one thing or another, or we save it – to spend later.

So imagine this: Instead of getting paid with money, people were paid with a bag of seed. In this case – because it is seed – we eat it now or we save it to eat later. In Luke 12:16-21, Jesus tells of a foolish rich man whose crops yielded so plentifully that he said he would tear down his barns and build greater ones to store all his crops and goods.

I never understood why that was such a stupid idea until now.

If we eat all our seed, what happens when we run out? We have to go out and get more.

Where do we go for more seed? Usually to the person who gave us seed the last time. Maybe it's an employer, the government, clients, customers, etc. If we live this way, we will always be looking to people for what we can get out of them – our next source of seed.

This is why the rich man in the parable was a fool – because he acted irresponsibly with his riches.

We don't think twice about putting money in a savings account, do we? In fact, we think it's a responsible thing to

do. But in this parable, seed is being stored, not money. And what should you do with seed? You should plant it! What did this guy do? He stored it in his barn and ate it, which is where the phrase, “eat, drink, and be merry” comes from. In the end, the fool lost his wealth. He died and his seed was left behind for another to inherit.

Instead of doing what the foolish man did and eat all your seed (or storing it to eat later), sow your seed. Sow it whenever and however God leads you to sow it. And sow it, not into shallow soil, not rocky

soil, not thorny soil, but good soil. And in due season, your harvest will be 30-, 60- or a hundredfold.

Once you become a sower, you will look at people as soil. Instead of seeking people for what you can get out of them, you will be looking to people for what you can put into them. And Jesus, our Lord, will provide us with seed.

It fundamentally changes the dynamic of the relationship. And what are we called to do? According to Romans 13:8, we are to “owe no man anything but to love him.”

John 13:35

35 By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.

This is supposed to be the mark of a Christian. We are supposed to stand out from the world in this way.

But Jesus didn't just command us to do something and not equip us to do it! In John 13:34, He commanded us to love one another as He has loved us. He sowed love into us, that we might love others. That's right: Love is a seed!

And it may be the most important one of all.

When we receive a seed, we produce the fruit. One of the fruits of the spirit in Galatians 5:22-23 is love. In the fruit is the seed. And in the seed is the fruit.

A Mountaintop View

I'd like to share with you something that Jesus showed me recently.

In the Spirit, He took me to a mountaintop. And from there I could see everything – the whole world. In my spirit I knew that this was the

mountaintop where Jesus was tempted by Satan.

Matthew 4:8-10

8 Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them;

9 And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me.

10 Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the LORD thy God,

and him only shalt thou
serve.

Satan was offering Jesus “all of these things,” with things being the key word, here. And what would Jesus have had to do? Just fall down and worship Satan – which, of course, would cost Jesus. If He would’ve bowed down, Jesus would have sinned against His LORD, which would have made him imperfect and blemished, and therefore unable to fulfill his purpose on the cross.

In the Spirit, as Jesus stood with me on that mountain, He

30

said simply, “It wasn’t enough.”

As I stood there, staring at that mountaintop view, I realized just how much I was valued. Jesus looked at the whole world and all its riches and said that it wasn’t enough to keep Him from dying for me.

For Jesus, the reward was not worth the cost, even if it was for just me – or just you. Jesus knew what He would have to go through in order to pay for the sins of mankind. And he was not willing to make

that exchange. He loves us too much.

When the king of Sodom tried to negotiate with Abram, what did he ask for? He asked for the people that Abram had liberated, and he offered to pay Abram with the riches of his kingdom – things.

When Satan tempted Jesus on the mountaintop, what did he offer? He offered the riches of his kingdom – again, things. What did Satan want out of the deal? He wanted the people that Jesus would die for.

Abram didn't want to give up those people. His reward was

God, and the things he was offered by the king were not enough. Eventually, he received his seed (an heir) and a portion of God's own name – becoming Abraham. After some time, Abraham was called to sow his own seed – his precious son, Isaac – by offering him to God.

Genesis 6:6-8

6 And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering, and laid it upon Isaac his son; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife; and they went both of them

together.

7 And Isaac spake unto Abraham his father, and said, My father: and he said, Here am I, my son. And he said, Behold the fire and the wood: but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?

8 And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together.

Fortunately, an angel intervened, stopping Abraham from sacrificing his son. The LORD God followed through on

Abraham's call to provide a seed of Himself instead.

Abraham's faith was in the LORD's promise of providing seed.

In Hebrews 11:17, we learn that, "by faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son." *His only begotten son.*

After the fall of man in the garden of Eden, God didn't want to give up his people. So "He gave His only begotten Son" – as a seed of love – "that whosoever (believes) in him

should not perish, but have everlasting life” (John 3:16).

Jesus explained this in John 12.

John 12:23

23 But Jesus answered them, saying, “The hour has come that the Son of Man should be glorified.

24 Most assuredly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain.

25 He who loves his life will lose it, and he who hates his

life in this world will keep it for eternal life.

Abraham had faith in the seed God had provided for him, and he was counting on a harvest as great as the number of stars in the sky. God was counting on His seed – Jesus – for a great harvest. If Abraham had faith in seed, I think we had better do the same. If God has faith in seed, we had better also!

Become a Sower

If you want to make Jesus your Lord and seed provider, just say out loud (or however

you can express yourself) that Jesus Christ is Lord and that He rose from the dead (defeating Satan). By doing so, you are saying that you believe in your heart that what God says is true and making a declaration that you are willing to receive good things from Him. It's really just that simple.

Now, you can expect to receive seed.

God gives seed to the sower.
So, sow! Everything is seed!

Luke 6:38

38 Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you.

About the Author



Rachael Pico is passionate about revealing God as a loving Father, Jesus as a powerful friend, and the Holy Spirit as a comforting guide. She has developed an intimate, personal relationship with God and is called to teach others how to receive His love based upon their unique individual needs. She is the president and founder of Life Abundant Ministries. Learn more at www.life-abundant.org.

"The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." - Jesus, John 10:10

The purpose of Life Abundant Ministries is to educate people about God, themselves, and their relationship with Him. Through onsite seminars, webinars, and various resources, we aim to reveal God to people so that they may see Him at work in their everyday lives. We have been influenced by ministers, thinkers, and leaders from a range of backgrounds. God speaks to people where they are at and in a way that they will understand. As ambassadors of Jesus Christ, we are no different in our approach. We hope to draw people into a personal and communal relationship with God rather than religion.



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