WEEKLY SERMON NOTES

THE BOOK OF JOHN | STOP... LIFT UP YOUR EYES | JOHN 4:27-42

The harvest is ready, but we must recognize the opportunities, overcome our excuses, and faithfully share the gospel. When we understand the urgency of eternity and see people through the eyes of Jesus, we will stop making excuses and start becoming witnesses.

MAIN POINTS, QUESTIONS OR THINGS THAT STUCK OUT TO YOU:

FURTHER STUDY:

Cross References, Resources, etc.

Romans 10:14; Luke 10:2; Matthew 9 :36-37; 1 Corinthians 3:6; Amos 9:13; Philippians 2:4

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

GROUND RULES: Encourage others and hold yourself accountable. | What is said within a group stays in the group. | Where is it written in the Bible?

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Jesus tells His disciples to lift up their eyes and see that the fields are "white for harvest." What is the significance of the agricultural illustration, particularly when Jesus contrasts the customary four-month waiting period with the readiness of the spiritual harvest?

Jesus says, "One sows and another reaps," explaining that the disciples are entering into the labor of others. What does this teach us about God's sovereignty in salvation and the different roles people play in bringing others to Christ? Who might the "others" refer to in the immediate context, and how does this principle connect with 1 Corinthians 3:5–9? Why does Jesus emphasize that both the sower and the reaper can rejoice together?

WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR ME?

What are some of the most common excuses Christians use to avoid sharing their faith (lack of knowledge, fear of rejection, feeling inadequate, concern about offending someone, etc.)? Which of these do you think most often keeps believers silent, and what truth from this passage helps us overcome it?

Jesus challenged His disciples to lift their eyes and recognize that the harvest was ready. Who are some or groups we might overlook, assume are uninterested, or consider unlikely to respond to the gospel? What would it look like to intentionally move beyond simply inviting people to church and instead help them personally encounter Jesus through a conversation, testimony, or clear presentation of the gospel?

Read Ahead: John 4:39-52