***Dying To Live – John 12:23-26; 32-33***

Outline By: Mark Knowles 4/2/17 AM

**Introduction**

1. The fundamental law of life is reversed according to Jesus. Jesus says we die to live; we give to get; and the way up is down. When we try to live by the standards and ways of the world we end up violating these ideas. When it comes to evangelism its best that we sow seeds, water plants, and let God give the increase!
2. **The Principle Of “You Get What You Plant”**
   1. Seeds Always Bears According To Its Kind
      1. Corn makes corn, wheat makes wheat, and cotton makes cotton. It has been this way since Genesis 1 and according to Galatians 6:7 this will not change.
      2. The seed is the Word of God – The Gospel (Luke 8:11; Acts 2). If you plant the Word of God you will produce Christians (Hebrews 4:12; Galatians 5:22-23; John 12:24).
      3. Matthew 13 concerning the tares we learn that wheat seed makes wheat and tares seeds make tares. Error will not come up truth.
   2. Planting, Watering, & Increase – 1 Corinthians 3:6-9
      1. Note the emphasis in this paragraph on *increase* or *growth*. Why compare preachers or statistics? God is the source of the growth; no man can take the credit.
      2. One laborer plows the soil, another sows the seed, a third waters the seed. As time passes, the plants grow, the fruit appears, and other laborers enjoy reaping the harvest.
      3. Principles to understand and follow...
         1. Direct operation of the Holy Spirit is rejected.
         2. The gospel (Romans 1:16) is still God’s power to save!
         3. Harvest is at the mercy of planting.
         4. Clear; stump; plow; plant; cultivate; then harvest.
         5. Seed-sowing comes before soul-saving!
         6. Look at the mountains! There are trees literally growing out of rocks. The power is in the seed!
         7. Believe in the seed (Gospel)! It can break concrete (and hard hearts).
         8. Planting is not exciting but we all have to do it.
3. **Dying To Live**
   1. FADS!
      1. God is not concerned about methods but the message. We (mankind) is the method. Just share the gospel and keep it simple (John 12:23-26; Galatians 6:14).
   2. DIE!
      1. Jesus died; Paul died; the seed dies; we die! Paul died daily (1 Corinthians 15; Galatians 2:20, 21). Reproduce *or* die-die *to* reproduce. Jesus bids us die.
      2. Brokenness is vital! Only broken people serve. In Romans 5 Jesus died for us. In Romans 6 we died with Him. We must die to self to evangelize.
4. **Evangelism**
   1. Go – Matthew 28:18-20
      1. Evangelism involves friendship, but it is more. Usually, there is more friendship than evangelism. Read Matthew 28:18-20. “Go” (what are we going from) -from your life and daily happenings to evangelize.
      2. Bloom where you are planted! Let’s start sharing the gospel today!