

90 DAYS

Living in the Overflow 90 Days - Part 2 Pastor Dave Patterson

USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures referenced in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to facilitate a discussion.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is not to pound through the questions but to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships, so use the discussion questions as you see fit, but emphasize the relationships.

We give because: **Life is short, eternity is real & people matter most!**

Key Verse

2 Corinthians 9:8

And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need, and plenty left over to share with others.

We want to be people who are living in the overflow!

Matthew 13:22-24

“The seed that fell among the thorns represents those who hear God’s word, but all too quickly the message is **choked out by the worries of this life and the lure of wealth**, so no fruit is produced. The seed that fell on good soil represents those who truly hear and understand God’s word and produce a harvest of thirty, sixty, or even a hundred times as much as had been planted!”

The seed is Certified = guaranteed to be reliable and endorsed (by God himself)
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3 Principles for Conditioning our Hearts (preparing the soil)

- 1. Prepare your heart to receive the seed of the word regarding generosity and prosperity**

Hosea 10:12

Plant the good seeds of righteousness, and you will harvest a crop of love.
Plow up the hard ground of your hearts, for now is the time to seek the LORD, that he may come and shower righteousness upon you.

Jeremiah 4:3

Plow up the fallow ground of your hearts! Do not waste your good seed among thorns.

- 2. Identify the seed for what it is and sow it**

“Don’t make the assumption that it’s all for your consumption.”

2 Corinthians 9:6

Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.

Matthew 5:7

Blessed are the merciful—for they will be shown mercy.

- Sow what you want to receive!

2 Corinthians 9:7 (AMP)

Let each one give [thoughtfully and with purpose] just as he has decided in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver [and delights in the one whose heart is in his gift].

2 Corinthians 9:8

And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others.

2 Corinthians 9:10 (AMP)

For God is the one who provides seed for the sower and bread for food. **He will provide and multiply your seed for sowing** [that is, your resources] and increase the harvest of your righteousness [which shows itself in active goodness, kindness, and love].

3. Live like the farmer: Continue to sow in faith and wait in expectancy

2 Corinthians 9:11-12

You will be enriched in every way **so that you can be generous on every occasion** . . . and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.

Because of your giving, others will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity.

Talking it Through

- 1.** The key verse for this week is 2 Corinthians 9:8 (reread the verse together), with the emphasis on the last part of the verse: *and plenty left over to share with others*. What does Pastor Dave's phrase "living in the overflow" mean to you? How do we know when we're in that place? Does it mean we'll never have financially lean seasons?
- 2.** In the Matthew 13 parable, Jesus identified the seed as the Word of God. As the seed (the message of tithing and generosity) is being planted, how would you best describe the soil of your heart? Review the four soil types

as a group. How could the Apostle Paul's exhortation in Romans 12:1-2, to renew our minds and let God transform us, come into play here?

3. Is there an area of your heart that is *fallow* (neglected, burned) when it comes to the message of tithing and generosity? If so, what next step can you effectively take to "plow" that up?
4. Review 2 Corinthians 9:10 and the idea that God multiplies seed to the sower. Discuss Pastor Dave's quote: "*Don't make the assumption that it's all for your consumption.*" What do you think God is trying to accomplish in and through us by supplying the needs of sowers?
5. Do you identify with Pastor Dave's statement "Finances are a test."? If so, how have you been tested? What are some ways in which you can encourage another person to persevere during the test?
6. What is one practical way you can begin living more like a farmer in your giving?