

*Turning Point Notes . . .*  
*Reaching People for Christ*  
*and*  
*Helping believers grow to be like Him*  
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## **Our Legacy – Planting for the Future!**

Minute by minute, hour by hour, day by day you are preparing the soil in which you will plant seeds of some kind.

Every look, every step, and every act you are putting down seeds of impact and influence in the lives of those around you. When God's plan for you is completed and you have died those seeds will continue to live on. Psalm 78:3-7

<sup>1</sup> Listen, my people, to my teaching, and pay attention to what I say.  
<sup>2</sup> I am going to use wise sayings and explain mysteries from the past, things we have heard and known, things that our ancestors told us. <sup>4</sup> We will not keep them from our children; we will tell the next generation about the Lord's power and his great deeds and the wonderful things he has done. <sup>5</sup> He gave laws to the people of Israel and commandments to the descendants of Jacob. He instructed our ancestors to teach his laws to their children, <sup>6</sup> so that the next generation might learn them and in turn should tell their children. <sup>7</sup> In this way they also will put their trust in God and not forget what he has done, but always obey his commandments.

### **Before you begin:**

- 1. What are you doing to make sure others know some of the things that you have experienced of God working in your life?
- 2. Does your life reflect Christ-likeness that God can use to draw others to Christ?
- 3. Do you know what one needs to do to prepare to spend eternity with God?

## **Planting Essentials**

### **1. Timing assures readiness for growth.**

- a. Are you constantly watching for opportunities to share your faith, help others, and serve God?

Ephesians 5:16

*16 Make the most of every opportunity for doing good in these evil days.*

- b. Are you willing to stop and take time to answer questions?

1 Peter 3:15

*15 Instead, you must worship Christ as Lord of your life. And if you are asked about your Christian hope, always be ready to explain it.*

### **2. Environment controls success of growth.**

- a. What kind of home environment are you generating for your family in order to produce Christian principles? Luke 8:15

*<sup>15</sup> But the good soil represents honest, good-hearted people who hear God's message, cling to it, and steadily produce a huge harvest.*

- b. What are some of the materials that help build a better spiritual environment to enhance you impression? James 1:12

*<sup>12</sup> God blesses the people who patiently endure testing. Afterward they will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him.*

### **3. Care and nurturing guarantees growth yield.**

- a. What fruit is grown in the believer's life if he is nurtured by Holy Spirit? Galatians 5:22-23

*<sup>22</sup> But when the Holy Spirit controls our lives, he will produce this kind of fruit in us: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness, and self-control. Here there is no conflict with the law.*

- b. How can you apply these principles to your relationships and improve the impression you leave as a "Legacy"?

### **4. Cultivate the fruits of the Spirit for Spiritual growth.**

Colossians 3:15

*<sup>15</sup> And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body you are all called to live in peace. And always be thankful.*

- a. As others do well and others are successful, do you encourage them?

- b. Do you support leaders? (church, family, government)

### **Tuesday:**

## **Seed and Soil**

Seed and soil are very critical elements in producing fruit. They are the two areas where you have choice. Matthew 13:3-8

*<sup>3</sup> He told many stories such as this one: "A farmer went out to plant some seed. <sup>4</sup> As he scattered it across his field, some seeds fell on a footpath, and the birds came and ate them. <sup>5</sup> Other seeds fell on shallow soil with underlying rock. The plants sprang up quickly, <sup>6</sup> but they soon wilted beneath the hot sun and died because the roots had no nourishment in the shallow soil. <sup>7</sup> Other seeds fell among thorns that shot up and choked out the tender blades. <sup>8</sup> But some seeds fell on fertile soil and produced a crop that was thirty, sixty, and even a hundred times as much as had been planted. <sup>9</sup> Anyone who is willing to hear should listen and understand!"*

### **Seed or Pebbles?**

As you are making your daily choices you will either plant "seed" or "pebbles". One can germinate and spring forth in fruit, the other produces nothing.

John 12:24-25 *<sup>24</sup> The truth is, a kernel of wheat must be planted in the soil. Unless it dies it will be alone—a single seed. But its death will produce many new kernels—a plentiful harvest of new lives. <sup>25</sup> Those who love their life in this world will lose it. Those who despise their life in this world will keep it for eternal life.*

- 1. Are you serving God for what "you" can get out of it?

2. Are you serving God for what you can give?

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3. How will the following prayer help you to make the right choice to lose your life in service for the benefit of others? **Matthew 6:10**  
<sup>10</sup> may your Kingdom come; may your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

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4. Would you consider your life a blessing to others or a hindrance?

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### **Wednesday:**

#### **Soil . . .**

Soil is very important. A good seed planted in the wrong "soil" will either not germinate at all or have fruitless growth. The same seed sown in the right soil will germinate properly, and row properly and bring forth much fruit.

You cannot control the soil of another's heart, but you can control your own.

1. What are you doing to create a condition in your life that makes it easier to live out God's Word? **Deuteronomy 8:3**

*3 He humbled you, causing you to hunger and then feeding you with manna, which neither you nor your fathers had known, to teach you that man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.*

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2. How can you become more knowledgeable of "every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord" ? **2 Timothy 2:15** <sup>15</sup> Study and be eager and do your utmost to present yourself to God approved (tested by trial), a workman who has no cause to be ashamed, correctly analyzing and accurately dividing [rightly handling and skillfully teaching] the Word of Truth.

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3. How can being obsessed with material things and impressed with yourself prevent you from allowing God to make your life a soil where His Word can bring His fruit to your life?

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### **Thursday:**

#### **Preparing the Soil . . .**

You can depend on God to ready the soil of your heart and the soil of the hearts of those with whom you try to share His Word.

#### **If God is invited to participate He will . . .**

1. God has equipped you for the plan He has for your life.

**1 Thessalonians 5:8** <sup>8</sup> But let us who live in the light think clearly, protected by the body armor of faith and love, and wearing as our helmet the confidence of our **(Ephesians 5:9 Ephesians 5:8)**

a. What practical things can you do to better benefit from His equipping? **1 Peter 5:8-11** <sup>8</sup> Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. <sup>9</sup> Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings. <sup>10</sup> And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. <sup>11</sup> To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

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b. What assurance does God give you that He will work in your life? **1 Corinthians 2:9** <sup>9</sup> That is what the Scriptures mean when they say, "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no mind has imagined what God has prepared for those who love him."

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### **Friday :**

2. God has confidence in you that HE and you can do it.

**Philippians 4:13** <sup>13</sup> Whatever I have, wherever I am, I can make it through anything in the One who makes me who I am.

a. On what or whom do you rely to get through the unexpected?

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b. Does your choice of help and guidance reflect faith in God?

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c. What changes do you need to make to make your life more God-honoring?

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3. God has given you gifts (abilities) to carry you through

**victoriously. Ephesians 4:11-16** <sup>11</sup> And he gave some to be apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; <sup>12</sup> for the perfecting of the saints, unto the work of ministering, unto the building up of the body of Christ: <sup>13</sup> till we all attain unto the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a fullgrown man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: <sup>14</sup> that we may be no longer children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, in craftiness, after the wiles of error; <sup>15</sup> but speaking truth in love, we may grow up in all things into him, who is the head, even Christ; <sup>16</sup> from whom all the body fitly framed and knit together through that which every joint supplieth, according to the working in due measure of each several part, maketh the increase of the body unto the building up of itself in love.

Ask a pastor how you can do a Spiritual Gifts assessment.

### *Turning Point . . .*

**Galatians 6:7-9** <sup>7</sup> Don't be misled. Remember that you can't ignore God and get away with it. You will always reap what you sow! <sup>8</sup> Those who live only to satisfy their own sinful desires will harvest the consequences of decay and death. But those who live to please the Spirit will harvest everlasting life from the Spirit. <sup>9</sup> So don't get tired of doing what is good. Don't get discouraged and give up, for we will reap a harvest of blessing at the appropriate time.



Plant **Temporary** == Reap **Temporary**



Plant **Eternal** == Reap **Eternal**



Plant in **Faith** == Reap **Blessings**