

Mexico Trip -- Pastors Conference, Deaf, Mute, Lots of Joy
Daniel & Natalia during worship?

Super Sunday Generosity

- **How Pledges Work -- Also Next Week, we will Receive & Pray**
- **Fill Out Your Envelope with Target Harvests**
- **Button for Online Giving**
- **Plant Your Seed with Yitzhak**
- **Pastors Will Pray Over Each Offering**

I. First Fruits Principles

The law deals w/ what we DON'T have. Grace works w/ what we do have. **What we do today** echoes through eternity.
Barry Wissler quote — impact
Ray Lewis quote & slide — memorial

At the Beginning (Tithe after the Harvest)

1. Firstfruits **sanctify** our whole life and all we love.

<outside the natural order, separate from ordinary>

Rom 11:16 NIV If the part of the dough offered as **firstfruits is holy, then the whole batch is holy**; if the root is holy, so are the branches.

When something is sanctified to the Lord, He treats it as His own. It is kept, blessed, increased and enlarged to great capacities.

2. It's a **Pattern not Legalism** - FF will CAUSE a blessing to ABIDE.

Simply, we honor the Lord with the **first** and the **best** and the whole or the rest is blessed. A Pattern reveals how the Lord works, it is a revelation of **His ways**.

[Ezek 44:30 NKJV](#) The best of all firstfruits of any kind...; you shall give..., **to cause a blessing to rest on your house.**

3. Giving is **Planting Seeds for Future Harvest**

A seed an embryonic information capsule, carrying all the instructions needed for increase and multiplication. A seed is alive and packed with almost limitless potential.

Seeds are God's "future containers." In them is God's blueprint for the future.

"You're somewhere in the future..."

[2 Cor 9:6-7 NIV](#) Remember this: Whoever **sows...⁷** Each man should **give** what he has decided in his heart to **give**, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for **God loves a cheerful giver.**

The seed we sow connects our lives to the soil of God's Promises

You can't eat dirt, yet all our food comes from dirt. The life in the seed can grow and capture the power of the Sun, transforming dirt and water into food, into clothing, into housing, into fuel!

Apple seed -- not just an apple, but a tree that gives for years and year!

Our children are called "seeds." The Seed of the Woman, Abraham in Isaac shall your seed be called— *Yitzhak* —laughter.

4. **RECIPROCAL, ENERGIZED & PROPORTIONAL ACTIVATION OF DIVINE RESPONSE**

[Luke 6:38 NKJV](#) 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."

5. **Releases God's OVERFLOW to YOU, to ME!**

2 Cor 9:8 NKJ And **God is able** to make **all grace abound** toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance **for every good work**.

God works with what we **have!** **Don't let what you don't have overrule what you do have!** Mustard Seed

Be thankful and begin to use what you do have!

II. 4 Keys to First Fruits:

1. **Cyclical** —Annual basis or at the beginning of a new endeavor.
2. **In Faith** —
 - a) **Comfort**— you just do it, in the budget, etc.
 - b) **Faith**— responding to that which is beyond our ability. We increase our “measure”
 - c) **Presumption**— trying to manipulate God
3. **Sacrificial** — if it doesn't move you, it probably won't move God.
4. **Focused** — List the “crops” you are planting for breakthrough.
 - a) **Reflects the godly passions of your heart**
 - b) **Based on God's Word.**
 - c) **Pray, Believe, Decree, Stand. You will reap if you don't faint. You have seed in the ground!**
 - d) **This is a time to sow, to consecrate the dreams for our lives and the promises of God we hold in our hearts.**

III. Conclusion

1. **God's Direction (desire discipline delight)**
2. **Target a Harvest (Gates held by the enemy)**

- 3. Set an amount, or ask for one.**
- 4. Write a check or a pledge (next two months)**
 - No Fear — Refunds for 2 weeks!**

Anne Joins Me on Stage — Declaration

Call People Forward

At Conclusion, STACK the BASKETS

Bless the Seed, and the People

Dismiss with Aaronic Blessing