

## First Fruits Sunday 2019

Bryan - testimony summaries

How Pledges Work -- Next 2 Weeks, we will Receive & Pray

Target Harvests

Push Pay for Online Giving

**REVIEW: Our Father DELIGHTS in your success!**

### I. Principles

**Firstfruits at the Beginning (Tithe *after* the Harvest) [slide 1]**

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

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.

**<outside the natural order, separate from ordinary>**

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

**2. *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**. [slide 2]

Ezek 44:30 NKJ The best of all firstfruits of any kind...; you shall give..., **to cause a blessing\* to rest on your house.** (*to settle, find a resting place*) *\*imparted favor and protection* [slide 3]

**3. *Planting Seeds for Future Harvest* [slide 4]**

A seed is alive and packed with almost limitless potential. They contain instructions for the future. They are embryonic information capsules.

2 Cor 9:6 ESV The point is this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully\* will also reap bountifully.\* 7 Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. \*blessings [slide 5]

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

The life in the seed captures the power of the Sun, transforming dirt, water and air into food, into clothing, housing & fuel!

Reverently, we hold up the beautiful seed we are about to sow in good ground. The kernels glow with an inner light, squirming in our hands as if they are charged with life, awakened, ready to transform into harvest!

Inside an apple seed is a tree that gives for years and year!

Abraham's seed was in Isaac — *Yitzhak* — miracle laughter.

## 4. GENEROSITY ACTIVATES A RECIPROCAL, ENERGIZED & PROPORTIONAL DIVINE RESPONSE [slide 6]

Luke 6:38 NKJ 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 an OVERFLOW of God's Ability [slide 7]

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. \*autarkeia

God works with what we have! Don't let what you don't have overrule what you do have! Mustard Seed [slide 8]

Be thankful and begin to use what you do have!

## II. 4 Keys to First Fruits: [slide 9]

1. Cyclical — Annual basis or at the beginning of a new endeavor. [slide 10]

2. In Faith — [slide 11]  
Comfort— you just do it, in the budget, etc.

Faith— responding to that which is beyond our ability. We increase our “measure”

Presumption— trying to manipulate God

3. Sacrificial — if it doesn't move you, it probably won't move God. [slide 12]

4. Focused — List the “crops” you are planting for breakthrough. [slide 13]

Reflects the godly passions of your heart

Based on God's Word.

Decree, Stand.

You will reap if you don't faint. You have seed in the ground!

This is a time to sow, a time 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 the Servants Forward:**

**Bless the ONLINE givers:**

*"May the Lord give rain for your seed which you sow today. May  
He increase you many times over and bless you as He has  
promised."*

**Call People Forward**

**At Conclusion, STACK the BASKETS**

**Consecrate & Bless the Seed, and the People**

**Dismiss with Aaronic Blessing**