# First Fruits Sunday 2023

Pledges Next 2 Weeks, we will Receive & Pray
\*Pastors Pray over all the holy sacrifices\*

Abba DELIGHTS in your success! designs pathways to partner

# I. Principles

<u>Firstfruits at the Beginning</u> (Tithe <u>after</u> 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 <u>treats it as His own</u>. It is kept, blessed, increased and enlarged to great capacities.

2. Pattern not Legalism - Releases a blessing that REMAIN.

Simply, we honor the Lord with the first and the best and the whole or the rest is blessed. A Pattern 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 <u>blessing</u>\* to rest on your house. (to settle, find a resting place) \*imparted favor and protection [slide 3]

#### 3. Planting Seeds for Future Harvest [slides 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

- A <u>living blueprint</u> in the seed captures the power of the Sun, transforming dirt, water & 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! [slide 6]
- Inside an apple seed are instructions for a tree that gives for many years! **Abraham's** seed was in Isaac *Yitzhak*—laughter becomes **LEGACY**. Both Sarah & Abraham laughed at the impossibility. 4,000 years later! [slide 7]
- 4. GENEROSITY Releases an <u>Energized</u>, <u>RECIPROCAL</u> & <u>PROPORTIONAL DIVINE RESPONSE</u> [slide 8]
- Luke 6:38 NKJ Give, and <u>it will be given</u> 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 9]
- 2 Cor 9:8 And **God is able** to make **all grace abound to you**, so that having all **sufficiency**\* in all things at all times, **you** may **abound in every good work**. \*autarkeia
- God works with what we <a href="have">have</a>! Don't let what you don't have overrule what you do have! Mustard Seed [slide 10 &11]

  SEQUOIA

Be thankful and begin to use what you do have!

# II. 4 Keys to First Fruits:

- 1. <u>Cyclical</u> —Annual basis or at the beginning of a new endeavor. [slide 12]
- 2. <u>In Faith</u> [slide 13] Comfort— you just do it, in the budget, etc.

<u>Faith</u>— responding to that which is beyond our ability. We increase our "measure."

Presumption— trying to manipulate God

- 3. <u>Sacrificial</u> Costly obedience that moves us moves God [slide 14]
  - 2 Sam 24:24 "...I will not offer burnt offerings to the LORD my God that cost me nothing."
- 4. <u>Focused</u> List the "crops" you are planting for breakthrough. [slide 15]

<u>Reflects</u> 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!
- A kairos time to sow, a time to consecrate the dreams for our lives and the promises of God we hold in our hearts.

#### III. Action:

- 1. God's Direction (desire discipline delight)
- 2. Consecrate 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 months!
- Sequoia seeds!
- Anne joins me Declaration

# Bless the **ONLINE** givers: Pushpay Category

"May the Lord send rain at the right time for your seed which you sow today. May He increase you many times over and bless you many times beyond your expectation as He has promised."

### Call People Forward — **Bryan**

- At Conclusion, BOWLS into BASKET.
- Consecrate & Bless the Seed, and the People
- Dismiss with Aaronic Blessing

#### **BLESSING DECLARATION**

God's Word Declares that as you bring His tithes and your offerings into the storehouse that He will open up the floodgates of Heaven and pour out blessings that overflow. Because of these, God promises to rebuke the devourer and protect the fruit of your labor from destruction.

Because of the Cross and because of your faith in the Blood of Jesus, you are the Blessed of the Lord!

You shall go out with JOY and be led forth with PEACE.

- Therefore, I boldly declare amazing financial blessings on you and your household. God will open doors and speak to the right people about you! I call in better jobs, housing, scholarships and more. I bless you with breakthrough. I command that which has been restricted by legal matters and strife to flow freely so that you enjoy what God has intended for you all along.
- I call back to your homes and bank accounts what the enemy has stolen from you. I declare that God restores double for what has been lost. I call for jubilee restoration of your rightful portion. May the Lord restore that which has been stolen from your family line over the centuries—with interest!
- I declare blessings for those who work in sales & consulting that more and bigger sales, commissions, opportunities, and deals will open up to you.
- For all of you, I declare that opportunities for advancement and profitable investment will come.

Because our Father delights to surprise His children, I declare that the Lord will cause you to unexpectedly receive money, receive funds into your accounts and that opportunities to prosper will find you!

For every entrepreneur and business owner — May your businesses become so prosperous that you can bless your employees with raises and better benefits! I speak blessings on your plans and call for astounding profits.

I call for such a spirit of abundance to come upon this people that God miraculously brings you out of debt, and that you are released from the stress and burden of debt. I release wisdom so that you may come into new peace, new financial freedom, and God's provision in all aspects of your life.

May you and your household enjoy exceedingly abundant, above and beyond favor and increase in your lives and may you give the way you have always wanted to give!

Life Center, I bless you in Jesus' Name as you come, bringing your gifts to God!