



## How Can I Live a Life of Faith When Changing Harvest Fields?

### Focus Scripture

*The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.* Matthew 9:37-38

### God's Harvest Fields

We are all spiritual farmers planting seeds of the Kingdom of God into the hearts of those we meet. Anytime you share the Good News from the Gospel, anytime you demonstrate the love of God through acts of kindness, or whenever you pray for someone, you are sowing seeds of the Kingdom of God.

The harvest field where you are sowing seeds can change at any time depending on your circumstances. You may be planting seeds for Christ at your middle school or high school right now. But in a few years, your harvest field may change to a high school or college campus. Or your harvest field may become a new job that you take on.

Changing harvest fields may seem a bit sad or frightening at first. All change can make us feel that way. Remember our friend Millie? She had to leave behind her harvest field in Lansdale, Ohio. She was leaving one harvest field to move to another. God began to show Millie how important it was to let go of the past and to begin to look forward to what lies ahead. Millie grew to understand that changing harvest fields offered new opportunities to grow personally and to reach new people for Christ.

But letting go of the past is never easy to do and it usually takes some time mixed with some tears to be able to really move on. One helpful thing to remember is that God will watch over the seeds we have planted for Him. 2 Timothy 1:12 says that God is able to guard what you have committed to Him. Millie couldn't be a part of her friends' lives as she used to be. She couldn't be there to help Aunt Wealthy like she used to. She had to entrust her loved ones into God's capable hands. She had to know that all the good, all the hard work, all those seeds she had sown during her stay in Lansdale would never be forgotten by the Lord of the Harvest. He would continue to water, nurture, and protect those seeds.

The seeds we sow for Jesus will never die - they keep growing, spreading, and producing life. It is a miracle of multiplication! Isaiah 55:11 says that God's Word is powerful to go forth and accomplish all that God purposed for it.

As we move on, we must keep our eyes on the Lord of our harvest, committing to Him all the seeds we have planted. We must never let our ministry, our seed planting, become more important than Him. He is the object of our deepest longing, the fulfillment of all we need. Our identity, the reason for our existence, is wrapped up in Him, not in what we do for Him.

### **Discussion Questions:**

Ask the girls to share where their harvest fields might be (school, work, home, extra-curricular activities, social groups).

Can you share a personal experience when you had to change harvest fields? Did you actually move or did a certain opportunity to serve the Lord stop or come to an end? What new opportunities opened up for you?

What will help you through these times of change? (Keep your eyes fixed on Jesus; look for new opportunities to serve Him or new ways to serve Him)

What promises does God make about the seeds we have sown for Him? (He will water the seeds and cause them to grow. He will not forget them. God's Word continues to bear fruit.)

### **Prayer Time**

Pray that the girls will find their complete joy in serving the Lord each day in the harvest field where God has placed them. As they sow their spiritual seeds, may they trust the Lord that He will water their seeds and cause them to grow. When their harvest fields change, may they keep their eyes on Jesus, trusting Him with the past, and following Him on to the new opportunities waiting ahead.

### **Craft Time**

"My Harvest Field Mosaic"

As the girls work on this craft, talk about what the different and varied spiritual seeds might be that they are planting in their harvest field (sharing Jesus with a friend, praying for someone, visiting a needy neighbor, etc.). Remind the girls that Jesus sees each seed that we plant, and that He will water it and cause it to grow and bear fruit in that person's life.

Craft Materials:

Cardboard, illustration board, paper plates, or other thick paper; Pencil; White glue; Paintbrush; Tweezers or a spoon; Assortment of dried beans, peas, and seeds (split peas, rice, dried black and red kidney beans, navy beans, sunflower seeds, corn kernels, bird seed, etc.). Egg cartons can be used to organize your various seeds.

Begin by sketching a design on your cardboard - a geometrical shape, animal, flower, etc. Use the paintbrush to cover a small portion of the design with a thick coat of white glue. Now arrange the beans and seeds on top of the glued area, following the drawn figures and shapes. Tweezers or a spoon can help in positioning smaller seeds. Continue in this manner until the entire design is filled in. The edges of the mosaic can be lined with seeds or dried beans to create a border. Allow the glue to dry completely before setting the mosaic upright.

## **Food Fun**

### "Harvest Mix"

2 cups raw sunflower seeds  
1 cup pine nuts  
1 cup raw pumpkin seeds  
1 cup raisins  
1 cup sweetened, dried cranberries

Measure the ingredients into a paper bag, fold over the top of the bag, and shake to mix. Store the mixture in an airtight container. The snack can be distributed to the girls in snack size Ziploc bags.

### "Seeds to Sow in My Belly"

Pumpkin seeds  
Sunflower seeds  
Sesame seeds  
Chopped nuts (not too many)

Roast the seeds to make them a bit crisp. Mix them in whatever proportion you like. Try 1-1/2 c. pumpkins seeds, 1 c. sunflower seeds, and a fistful of sesame seeds. In a sauté pan, melt butter and coconut oil in equal amounts. Use enough to coat the seeds once you put them in. Pour in seeds, being sure they are coated. Pour back into the bowl and salt right away so it will stick while still warm. Then put it all in a container with tight lid, and shake to mix. Distribute to each girl using snack size Ziploc bags.

## **Gazette ideas:**

See Chapter 27 of Violet's Life Lessons