

4/28/2019

The Hard Work

John 4:27-42 ²⁷Just then, His disciples returned and were astonished that He was speaking with a woman. But no one asked Him, “What do You want from her?” or, “Why are You talking with her?” ²⁸Then the woman left her water jar, went back into the town, and said to the people, ²⁹“Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Christ?” ³⁰So they left the town and made their way toward Jesus. ³¹Meanwhile, the disciples urged Him, “Rabbi, eat something.” ³²But He told them, “I have food to eat that you know nothing about.” ³³So the disciples asked one another, “Could someone have brought Him food?” ³⁴Jesus explained, “My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me and to finish His work. ³⁵Do you not say, ‘There are still four months until the harvest’? I tell you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are ripe for harvest. ³⁶Already the reaper draws his wages and gathers a crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may rejoice together. ³⁷For in this case the saying ‘One sows and another reaps’ is true. ³⁸I sent you to reap what you have not worked for; others have done the hard work, and now you have taken up their labor.” ³⁹Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in Jesus because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I ever did.” ⁴⁰So when the Samaritans came to Him, they asked Him to stay with them, and He stayed two days. ⁴¹And many more believed because of His message. ⁴²They said to the woman, “We now believe not only because of your words; we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man truly is the Savior of the world.”

Many Christians are terrified at the idea of personal evangelism. Why is this?

I. What does this passage tell us about evangelism?

- A. **Evangelism** always begins with person to person. V.27
- B. **True faith** is passed along in the same way. V.28-29
- C. **Real fruit** will cause others to be curious. V.30
- D. Being faithful to our **call** to evangelize is spiritual food for us. V. 31-34
- E. **Today** is the best day to start your ministry. V.35
- F. There is a **need** for both sowers and reapers. V.36-38
- G. The **woman** at the well was a sower. V.39
- H. Jesus and the disciples **served** in the role of reapers. V. 40-42

II. How can we apply this to our life?

- A. **Ask** God to give you sowing opportunities.
- B. **Look** for answers to this request.
- C. **Listen** to those to whom God brings your way.
- D. **Share** what God has done in you when appropriate.
- E. **Bring** them to Jesus when they want to experience salvation on their own.
- F. **Encourage** others to be sowers. This is the hard part of evangelism.