

## Working on the Farm

**Scripture:** 1 Corinthians 3:5-9

### Introduction

As a man who was raised in the city, I know very little about the actual duties and chores that a farmer has to do each day. There are, however, certain live principals that we can derive from the apostle's statement in this verse. One is that the salvation of others is a team effort, and God places each of us in certain strategic positions so that we can influence others for Him.

### I. Some are positioned to plant the gospel seed

**1 Corinthians 3:6a** I (Paul) planted the seed ....

- A. Your work may not seem to be to glamorous
- B. You have been strategically placed by God
- C. Your power of influence allows you to touch your associates with the gospel
- D. You may be positioned to simply plant a seed in one person's life

### II. Some are positioned to nourish the gospel seed

**1 Corinthians 3:6b** ...Apollos watered it....

- A. The power of exemplary living
- B. The power of kindness
  - Ephesians 4:32** Be kind and compassionate to one another....
  - 1. Kindness characterizes Jesus Christ
  - 2. You can "kill" with kindness
  - QUOTATION: I destroyed an enemy today, I made him my friend.
- C. The power of consideration
- D. The power of encouragement

### III. God is the one who brings the harvest

**1 Corinthians 3:6c** ...but God made it grow.

- A. We cannot force the harvest
  - 1. You may not experience seeing the harvest

- 2. There is no failure in either planting or watering the seed
- B. God's harvest timing is impeccable
- C. God simply asks us to be available to be used