



## Growing Part 3: Planting

“Grow in the grace and knowledge  
of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.”

2 Peter 3:18

“Even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” Matthew 20:28 (NIV)

“Jesus said: ‘My food is to do what God wants! He is the one who sent me, and I must finish the work that he gave me to do. You may say that there are still four months until harvest time. But I tell you to look, and you will see that the fields are ripe and ready to harvest. Even now the harvest workers are receiving their reward by gathering a harvest that brings eternal life. Then everyone who planted the seed and everyone who harvests the crop will celebrate together. So the saying proves true, “Some plant the seed, and others harvest the crop.” I am sending you to harvest crops in fields where others have done all the hard work.’” John 4:34-38 (CEV)

Serving is everyone’s calling.

Serving is hard work.

Serving is rewarding.

Serving has eternal implications.

“You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love. The entire law is summed up in a single command: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’” Galatians 5:13-14 (NIV)

Planting seeds in the Kingdom starts with...

### 1. Offering my life to Him.

“Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.” Acts 4:12 (NIV)

“There is joy in the presence of the angels of God when one sinner changes his heart and life.” Luke 15:10 (NCV)

“‘Come, follow me,’ Jesus said, ‘and I will make you fishers of men.’ At once they left their nets and followed him. Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James... and his brother John. They were in a boat with their father Zebedee, preparing their nets. Jesus called them, and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.” Matthew 4:19-22 (NIV)

“Jesus said to his disciples, ‘If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.’” Matthew 16:24 (NIV)

“...offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship.” Romans 12:1 (NIV)

### 2. Using the gifts He has given me.

Ephesians 4:11-12, 1 Corinthians 12:27-31, Romans 12:6-8

“Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, ‘Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?’ And I said, ‘Here am I. Send me!’” Isaiah 6:8 (NIV)

“Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men, because you know that the Lord will reward everyone for whatever good he does...” Ephesians 6:7-8 (NIV)

“So let’s not allow ourselves to get fatigued doing good. At the right time we will harvest a good crop if we don’t give up, or quit.” Galatians 6:9 (MSG)

My decision today is to serve: \_\_\_\_\_

“I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit—fruit that will last.” John 15:15-16 (NIV)

