

Northgate Sermon Notes

THE HARVEST SERIES (2 OF 4)

TEXT: John 4:34-38

TOPIC: The Love of the Harvest

Pastor Bobby Earls, Northgate Baptist Church, Florence, SC

Sunday morning, February 10, 2013

John 4:34–38 (NKJV) ³⁴ *Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work. ³⁵ Do you not say, ‘There are still four months and then comes the harvest?’ Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest! ³⁶ And he who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, that both he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together. ³⁷ For in this the saying is true: ‘One sows and another reaps.’ ³⁸ I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored, and you have entered into their labors.”*

“The evangelistic harvest is always urgent. The destiny of men and of nations, is always being decided. Every generation is strategic. We are not responsible for the past generation, and we cannot bear the full responsibility for the next one; but we do have our generation. God will hold us responsible as to how well we fulfill our responsibilities to this age, and take advantage of our opportunities.”

Billy Graham

Now the only way you will ever get excited about the Harvest is if two things happen:

- 1) You’ve got to see the possibility of the Harvest and
- 2) You’ve got to seize the opportunity of the Harvest.

1. THE FOOD THAT SHOULD ACTIVATE US

John 4:32, *“I have food to eat of which you do not know.”*

John 4:34, *“My food is to do the will of Him who sent me, and to finish His work.”*

Jesus Favorite Meal:

- His appetizer was the Word of God.

“Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.” (MT. 4:4)

- His main course was the Will of God.

“My food is to do the will of Him who sent me.” (Jn. 4:35)

“I do not seek my own will, but the will of the Father who sent me.”

Jn. 5:30

“For I have come down from Heaven not to do my own will, but the will of Him who sent me.” Jn. 6:38

“O my Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless not as I will, but as you will.” Matthew 26:39

- His dessert was the Work of God.

*“My food is to do the will of Him who sent me, and to finish **His work.**”*

*“I have glorified you on earth, I have finished **the work** which you have given me to do.” Jn. 17:4*

II. THE FIELDS THAT SHOULD MOTIVATE US

“Do you not say, ‘There are still four months and then comes the Harvest?’ Behold, I say to you, Lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for Harvest!” John 4:35

III. THE FRUIT THAT SHOULD STIMULATE US

“And he who reaps receives wages and gathers fruit for eternal life, that both he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together.”

John 4:36