FAITHFULIVESS

### WEEK 7

A faithful person is reliable. They can be counted on to keep their word and stay true to their commitments. They have a strong sense of stewardship, realizing that all they have comes from God and they will one day answer to him for how they have used their gifts and talents. God's faithfulness to us, with the help of the Holy Spirit, helps us move toward greater levels of faithfulness as we become like Christ. As we become more and more like Christ, those around us will begin to experience and see us as increasingly reliable and trustworthy.

**Personal Reflection:** Are you true to your word and commitments? Are you faithfully using your God-given gifts and talents?



"His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!"



- What do you learn about God and faithfulness in this passage?
- Where do you see Jesus demonstrating this fruit of the Spirit?
- What do you see or learn about yourself?
- What changes (thoughts, beliefs or actions) might God be calling you to make?



#### CULTIVATE

Jesus spoke in Matthew 13 of different types of soil. God wants us to till the soil of our hearts so that we would be receptive to the seed of his Word and bear fruit. Before digging into Scripture, prepare your heart by asking the Holy Spirit to help your heart receive and respond to His Word.

#### PLANT

Read the Scripture passage. Feel free to mark up the passage, highlighting key words or phrases.

MEDITATE & MEMORIZE: Choose a key verse that the Holy Spirit reveals to you and record it below. Commit to memorizing it and spend time this week meditating on it.

#### GROW

Ask the Holy Spirit to show you the quality of faithfulness in your life. Consider recent examples. Where did you feel like the Spirit was helping you live this out, rather than times when you allowed your natural, sinful nature to take over?

Matthew 3:8 says, "Produce fruit in keeping with repentance." Is God showing you any areas where pruning is necessary so that you can bear more fruit?

## NURTURE

- What is an area of your work or family where you have not kept your word? Prayerfully make a fresh commitment to show up, complete a task as promised or reach out to someone you have put off for a long time.
- What are your God-given gifts and talents? Consider ways you can faithfully use them to serve God and others this week.

## **HARVEST**\*

We find various stories in the Bible illustrating these virtues at work in people's lives. Most importantly, these virtues were perfectly displayed in Jesus' life. Your personal story is also important, and it's a testimony to those around you. Reflect back on the quality of faithfulness in your life and note any changes that the Holy Spirit revealed to you throughout the week. Was anything convicting? Did you make any changes or take any action steps in obedience to the Spirit? How will you be different as a result?

## PERSONAL

# ANSWERED PRAYERS\*

**GROUP**\*

I'M THANKFUL\*FOR

SERMON NOTES