



**Tree of Life Discipleship Series**

**Booklet 6**

**Seed**

For you have been born again,  
not of perishable seed,  
but of imperishable,  
through the living and enduring word of God.  
1 Peter 1:23

## Booklet 6 – Seed

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### Symbols Used in the Series



When you see this symbol in the booklets, stop and pray right then about what God is saying to you.



When you see this symbol it means there is a homework assignment to do.




When you see this symbol it means the subject is like a deep well and requires special contemplation.

25) Read Luke 10:1-23 about how Jesus sent his followers to spread the gospel. Write the verse numbers that tell you to:

- |                                     |                     |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Expect enemies?                     | Live simply?        |
| Pray a blessing of peace?           | Eat with others?    |
| Heal the sick?                      | Preach God is near? |
| Use spiritual authority?            | Expect success?     |
| Expect humble people to understand? |                     |

Your greatest task is to grow closer to Jesus for the rest of your life. As you do this, it is your privilege to help others on their journey of faith in Jesus. May your tree of life grow strong and beautiful as you spread gospel seed, see it grow to maturity, and share in the harvest. Your wages in paradise will go beyond your imagination.

 *Do you not say, 'Four months more and then the harvest'? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. Even now the reaper draws his wages, even now he harvests the crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together. John 4:35-36*

### Review of Lesson 3

- Without discipleship, Christians die.
- Discipleship includes involvement in lives.
- Work in the power of the Holy Spirit.

### Summary of Booklet 6 - Seed

- You are called to spread gospel seed.
- Your personal story has power.
- Participate in the cycle of discipleship.



## Lesson 1 – Spreading Seed

In this lesson you will learn:

- You are called to the great commission.
- Spread seed to anyone.
- The seed is the truth of God.

As Jesus promised, your tree is bearing fruit and becoming a safe place for others.

*The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all your seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and perch in its branches. Matthew 13:31, 32*



The final step in your intended lifecycle is to spread the seed of the gospel to others. One tree can spread many seeds. It is wonderful that God chooses to use Christians to spread his word. We are sinful and weak, but he uses us to prove the power is his and not from us. Get ready, because in this last booklet you will learn how to spread the seed of the gospel.

1) Look up Matthew 28:19, 20. Why do you think this passage is called the great commission?

2) Read Matthew 13:3-9 and 18-23. In this parable, who does the farmer represent? The farmer let the seed fall on all types of soil. What does that tell you about whom you should share the gospel with?

3) What are the four types of people symbolized by the four soils?

4) What type soil are you and why? It is okay to choose more than one.

5) Can a person change from one type to another? Should we ever give up hope that a person will accept the gospel?

6) Do the weeds of temptation and worry ever stop pulling at our tree?

7) In 1 Peter 1:23 what do you think the seed represents? What are some differences between physical seed and spiritual seed?

#### Review of Lesson 1

- You are called to the great commission.
- Spread seed to anyone who receives it.
- The seed is the truth of God.

22) The second and third soils received the word, but never produced fruit. How can we help others avoid the failure of the second and third soils?

23) How many generations of Christians are suggested by the following verse?

*And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others. 2 Timothy 2:2*



Pray for the Lord to show you those you can disciple. Offer to go through the Tree of Life Discipleship Series with them. Teach them to also use the booklets with others.

24) Read 1 Thessalonians 1:4-6. In what ways did Paul pass on the gospel without words?

Now it is your turn. You are chosen by Jesus Christ to go and make disciples. As you learned from the life of Paul, discipleship is not only teaching, but includes involvement in the lives of your disciples. You are to discover and use your spiritual gifts within the church. You are to use the power of the Holy Spirit for helping others. You will help others on their journey of faith, while you continue on your own journey.

Saint Francis of Assisi said, “Preach the gospel at all times and when necessary use words.”

You need to explain the truth of the gospel when the time is right. However, evidence of the fruit of the Spirit in your life is proof of the words you pass on to others. They will believe your actions more than your words.

### Review of Lesson 2

- Be ready to share.
- Know your story.
- Be bold but let the Holy Spirit work.
- Your life must match your words.



### Lesson 3 – The Discipleship Cycle

In this lesson you will learn:

- Without discipleship, Christians die.
- Discipleship requires involvement in lives.
- Work in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Helping another person receive the seed of the gospel is one of the greatest thrills of life. However, to leave that person without follow up training may mean the death of their faith. It is like helping a baby to be born then leaving it in the bushes and saying, “I hope you grow to maturity.”

21) In the parable of the four soils, which of the hearts symbolized by the soils made it to glory in heaven? See question 3 above.



### Lesson 2 – Your Story

In this lesson you will learn:

- Be ready to share.
- Know your story.
- Be bold and let the Holy Spirit work.
- Your life must match your words.

8) Read 1 Peter 3:15, 16. What is the main instruction?

You need to know the basic gospel message so you are ready to share with others. You also need to practice your own story of how you received Christ. The power of the gospel is proven by both the resurrection of Jesus and how he changes lives today.

9) Draw the gospel picture you learned in Booklet 1 – Roots, lesson 1.

10) What Bible verses have you memorized to use in telling others the gospel?

The gospel is the best good news ever told. Most people can understand how we all sin and need forgiveness. The truth that Jesus came from God to take our punishment is wonderful. The offer for reconciliation with God speaks to people’s hearts.

11) Read Acts 2:14-39. What happened when the crowd understood Jesus died for them? Note verse 37.

12) The simple gospel has power that needs no addition or long speech. How did Paul want to tell the gospel in Colossians 4:3, 4?

You need to practice until you can explain the gospel in a short, natural, and plain way.


### Your Story

13) What was your life like before you accepted Jesus?

14) How did you hear the gospel?

15) What did you do when you heard the gospel?


16) What is your life like after receiving the gospel?


 Practice telling your conversion story to a friend.

17) According to Romans 1:16, what does the gospel have the power to do?

18) If you are ashamed of telling others the gospel, what will happen to you according to Luke 9:26?

19) What does 2 Peter 3:9 teach you about the heart of God toward the unsaved?

 As you consider who you can pray for and share the gospel with, remember the heart of God. Be patient as he is patient. Think of faith in Jesus as a journey. Some are only beginning. Others began but lost the path. Still others are far along on the journey of faith in Jesus. The Holy Spirit may give you many people to help on their journey. Each one is in a different place and needs different encouragement.

 You are not responsible for the unsaved. You are only to speak when the Holy Spirit prompts you to help another person on the next step of their journey. The power to save is in the gospel message and the Holy Spirit; not in you.

20) According to 1 Corinthians 3:6, 7, what is the source of growth in others?