



Leviticus 18:1-3, 19:9-10
New International Version

Leviticus 18

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Leviticus 19

⁹“When you gather in the harvest of your land, you must not completely harvest the corner of your field, and you must not gather up the gleanings of your harvest. ¹⁰You must not pick your vineyard bare, and you must not gather up the fallen grapes of your vineyard. You must leave them for the poor and the foreigner. I am the LORD your God.

You are not defined by your past. You are prepared by your past.

Purpose, Plan, & Persistence

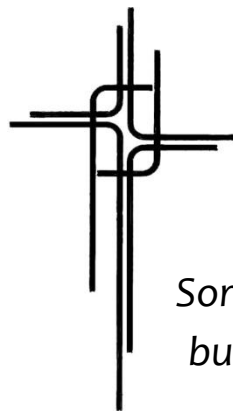
What guarantees a fruit in season? A seed has been sown, the seed has been watered and nurtured and then God gives the increase. ¹

Corinthians 3:6. God cannot grow what you don't plant.

So in essence we say there is a season of preparation.

May the Lord lead your hearts into God's love and Christ's **patience.** ²

Thss 3:5



Where is God?

A Study on the Life of Moses

ECONOMIC ATHEIST

*Someone who believes in the salvation of God,
but retains authority over their economic life*

God cannot grow what you don't PLANT

Choose to Live DIFFERENTLY

What are you living for?

What will it be like when you get there?

Who can you trust to guide you?

Fence #1 - Live inside your BUDGET

10-10-80 Plan: Give Save Live

Fence #2 - Respect the ECONOMIC Cycle

What guarantees a fruitful life?

SOW Season of Preparation (1 Cor 15:36)

GROW Season of Perseverance (2 Thes 3:5)

HARVEST Season of Plenty (Matt. 13:23)

LIVING WORD

World Communion Sunday

What would it look like if the church today imitated Jesus' affirmation of the full dignity and God-given potential of all women and men—especially those who've historically been assigned to the world's margins? On World Communion Sunday your giving helps to provide scholarships for national and international graduate students whom God has gifted to learn and to serve.

Equipping Disciples to Serve in Jesus' Name

As a small child Mary Grace Galapon labored as a housemaid in exchange for food and clothing. Yet, allowed to attend church, she found hope. As a member of the United Methodist Church, your giving on World Communion Sunday has allowed this deaconess, of the Mindanao Phillipines Annual Conference, to pursue an education that is now changing her community as she works to eliminate poverty.

Mary Grace's work, and the impact of hundreds more like her, are possible because you give.

Will You Equip World-Changers?

Will you give generously on World Communion Sunday to make education and vocational impact possible for more students, like Mary Grace? Will you equip gifted and qualified students from around the globe to become the world-changers God created them to be?

Nelson Mandela said, "Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world." And because the People of the United Methodist Church believe that all of God's children have been created and gifted to build the kingdom Jesus ushered in, we're resourcing them to do just that.

1 Corinthians 3:6

I planted the seed, and Apollos watered it. But God is the One who made it **grow**.

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Dealing Honestly

¹¹"You must not steal, you must not tell lies, and you must not deal falsely with your fellow citizen. ¹²You must not swear falsely in my name, so that you do not profane the name of your God. I am the LORD. ¹³You must not oppress your neighbor or commit robbery against him. You must not withhold the wages of the hired laborer overnight until morning.

"When you enter the land and plant any fruit tree, you must consider its fruit to be forbidden. Three years it will be forbidden to you; it must not be eaten. ²⁴In the fourth year all its fruit will be holy, praise offerings to the LORD. ²⁵Then in the fifth year you may eat its fruit to add its produce to your harvest. I am the LORD your God.

What's the most outrageous thing you would do for \$10,000? That's a challenge that was posed by a Chicago radio station some time back. 6,000 people responded with a wide variety of crazy and bizarre ideas. The winner was a college sophomore, Jay Gwaltney of Zionsville, Indiana, who consumed an 11-foot birch sapling—leaves, roots, bark and all. He put on a tux and dined at a table set elegantly with china, sterling, candles and a rose in a vase. Armed with pruning sheers, Jay began chomping from the top of the tree and worked his way, branch by branch, to the roots. His only condiment was French dressing for the massive birch-leaf salad. The eating adventure took 18 hours over a period of three days. When it was all over, Jay did complain of an upset stomach (Campus Life, Dec. 1980, p. 19)

That's a little bit "out there" (don't you think?) but every day people do crazy things to their bodies, whether it's for money, or for some other perceived benefit. Instead of money, they might be looking for comfort or relief from anxiety or a way of just coping with life. Maybe looking for a little excitement. But as Jay learned, there's often a stomach ache or its equivalent in the end.