

COLLINSVILLE-TROY CHURCH OF CHRIST

1400 Troy Road, Collinsville, Illinois 62234

Focus on God's Word Find the Truth Follow the Lord



Sunday Worship Assembly 9:30 AM
Sunday Bible Classes (All Ages) 11:00 AM
Wednesday Adult Bible Class 1:30 PM
Wednesday Bible Classes (All Ages) 7:00 PM



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The Correspondent

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God Gives the Increase

-Jason Wright

When we plant a seed and water it, who brings the growth? After all, we did not make the seed or the water, nor the sunshine. God makes it grow; God gives the increase.

Paul discusses this with the brethren in I Corinthians 3. Paul and Apollos were men, instruments used by God to teach Jesus. The Corinthians were making these men out to be greater than they were. As if, they had created the doctrine they were teaching. Paul puts a stop to it. He reminds them that following men is carnal, and of this world. They were behaving like mere men and not spiritual people (vs. 1,3). They were nothing without God. Paul credits God 5x in the first ten verses. *Neither he that plants is anything, nor he who waters. God gives the increase* (growth vs. 7.)

These Christians were carnally minded. They were divided. They needed to be reminded that they were servants of Christ; not servants of the ministers. They were on the same team with the same purpose. They were one; not divided according to their favorite preacher. Their purpose was to teach Jesus and to grow as Christians. They could not accomplish this if they were focused on giving someone other than God the glory. After all, without God, they had no salvation, and their work would not be successful.

Today, we are laborers, coworkers with God (vs. 9); we are a team working together to accomplish His goal. When this happens, God gets the glory.

What is meant by **God gives the increase**? God *euxanen* (gives the increase) means to make properly grow; become larger in size; progress multiplied. God supplies the growth.

How? *Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God* (Romans 10:17). A non-Christian becomes a child of God by obeying the Gospel. Salvation is by God's grace, and is conditional to our obedience. A Christian continues growing based on the study of God's word. *As newborn babes desire the milk of the Word, that you may grow thereby...* I Peter 2:2. The unsaved as well as the saved grow in Christ thru the word of God; the unsaved thru their obedience to the Gospel. The saved by a continuing faithful obedience. Peter commands growth in II Peter 3:18. In either case, God supplies the growth.

In conclusion, we are all ministers of truth; we serve the God of Heaven. We work together to save souls. Let us never forget the ONE who brings the increase. To God be the glory!!

Connections



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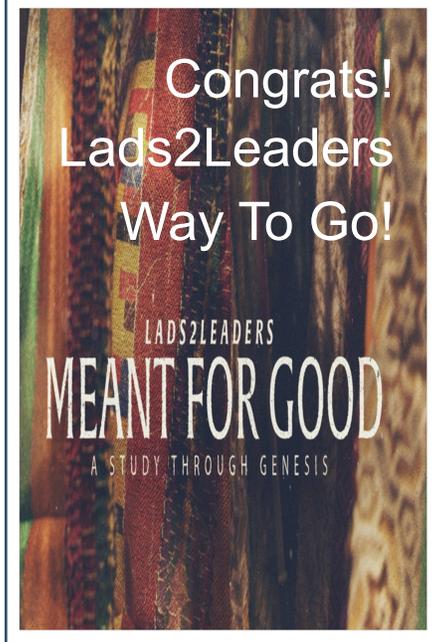


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For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth. I Thessalonians 1:8

What Makes Good Leaders? Part 2

- Devoted- Mark 12:31-32, Joshua 1:8, Esther 4:16
- Serving- Matthew 20:20-28, 1 Peter 5:3
- Accommodating- Matthew 25:15, Acts 15:36-41, Romans 14:1
- Adaptable- Nehemiah 4:1-23, Jude 22-23, Acts 20:28
- Communicative- Ephesians 6:17-18, Galatians 6:1-2, 1 Peter 5:1-2
- Peaceable- Romans 12:18, 1 Timothy 3:3, Matthew 18:15-20

Notes:

Worship Service

Announcements

Song: 238 Holy, Holy, Holy! (Vs. 1, 3, 4)

Song: 404 Looking to Thee (Cho. last)

Prayer

Song: 482 O Listen to Our Wondrous Story

Lord's Supper and Contribution

Song: 825 I Love My Savior, Too

Scripture Reading: Esther 4:13-16

Sermon

Song: 772 Why Do You Wait? (Vs. 1, 2, 4)

Song: 76 Bless Be the Tie (Vs. 1)

Prayer

Esther 4:13-16

T	T	A	T	S	N	I	A	G	A	I	R	A	R
D	E	N	R	E	I	P	E	R	I	S	H	S	I
D	A	S	K	K	A	L	R	E	H	E	A	R	T
E	A	W	N	T	T	T	E	P	L	A	C	E	H
L	T	E	O	L	I	R	H	N	P	K	U	H	H
I	H	R	W	Y	O	U	D	E	T	H	O	R	U
V	I	R	S	R	M	O	R	D	E	C	A	I	G
E	N	E	R	R	R	A	P	A	L	A	C	E	E
R	K	H	P	P	T	M	A	I	D	S	T	R	S
A	J	T	F	D	H	S	Y	A	D	N	I	E	C
N	E	S	H	G	I	A	A	M	W	A	S	M	A
C	W	E	E	E	R	H	T	F	E	W	A	A	P
E	S	U	O	H	A	N	O	T	H	E	R	I	E
R	N	A	H	S	U	H	S	P	A	S	P	N	A

THREE
JEW
ESTHER
PALACE
MAIDS
EAT
YOU
MORDECAI
DAYS
AGAINST
HEART
ANOTHER
DELIVERANCE
SILENT
REMAIN
FAST
KNOWS
SHUSHAN
ESCAPE
THINK
HOUSE
PERISH
ANSWER
PLACE

Esther 4:13-16 (NKJV)

- ¹³ And Mordecai told *them* to answer Esther: "Do not think in your heart that you will escape in the king's palace any more than all the other Jews.
- ¹⁴ For if you remain completely silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father's house will perish. Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for *such* a time as this?"
- ¹⁵ Then Esther told *them* to reply to Mordecai:
- ¹⁶ "Go, gather all the Jews who are present in Shushan, and fast for me; neither eat nor drink for three days, night or day. My maids and I will fast likewise. And so I will go to the king, which *is* against the law; and if I perish, I perish!"

Why Worship?

But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. John 4:23