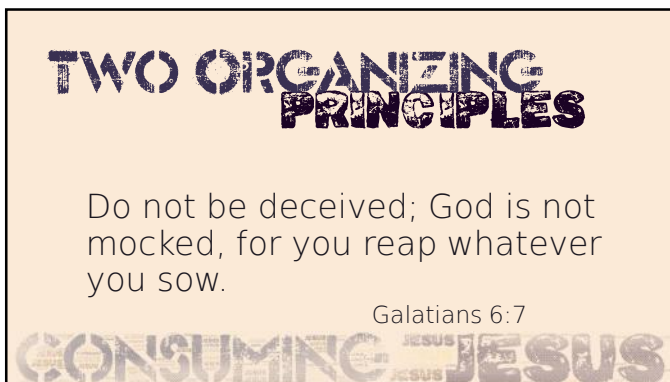




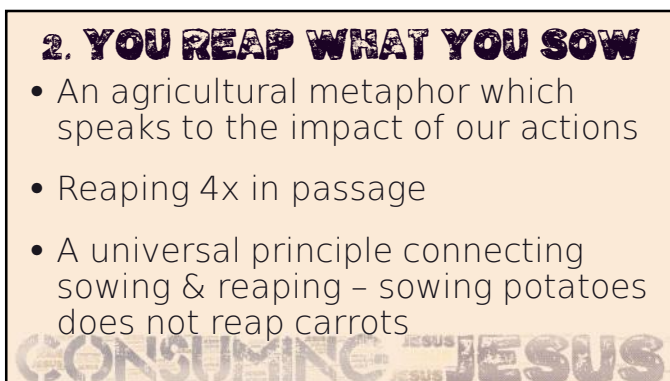
We are prone to judge success by the index of our salaries or the size of our automobiles, rather than by the quality of our service and relationship to humanity.

Martin Luther King, Jr



1. GOD IS NOT MOCKED

- Deceive – led astray
- 'God is not mocked' – tricked; manipulated; turn up the nose/snout
- God sees all; knows all; no hiding from God



THE CHALLENGE

- We rationalize our behaviour to deny the sowing/reaping truth
- We fail to recognize the time-shift between reaping and sowing



SOWING AND REAPING TWO EXAMPLES

If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh; but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit.

Galatians 6:8

THE FLESH

- Sowing to the flesh reaps corruption
- The field of flesh – one's ego; a mindset of focusing on self and living apart from God
- Galatians 5:19-21

THE SPIRIT

- Sowing to the Spirit reaps life
- The field of the Spirit – living in a manner where the God of love is honoured
- Galatians 5:22-23 – the fruit of the Spirit

REAPS LIFE

- The word 'life' = zoe which speaks of eternal life
- A transformed life devoted to God (Romans 12:2)
- Not just future life but eternal life now

THE POWER OF OUR CHOICE

- Rather than half-choosing or non-choosing
- The opposite of being indifferent

SOWING DEEDS OF GOODNESS

Three Sets of Two

GALATIANS 6:9-10

So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith.

Galatians 6:9-10

FIRST SET

- "Do what is right" (v9)
"Work for the good of all" (v10)
- Use your strength for the wellbeing of all – especially the household of faith

SECOND SET

- 'Do not grow weary' (v9)
'Do not give up' (v9)
- Do not become fatigued in doing good; not disheartened; not lax/discouraged; not angry

THIRD SET

- 'At harvest time' (v9)
The time of 'opportunity' (v10)
- Two references to time (Kairos)
- Goodness will bear fruit for which we will be rewarded – assurance of a good return

**GOING
FORWARD**

- We are invited to participate in God's great work
- To act/choose/be engaged for God's kingdom

It is still one of the tragedies of human history that the 'children of darkness' are frequently more determined and zealous than the 'children of light.'

Martin Luther King, Jr.

CONSUMING JESUS

CHANGE AGENTS

- Come alongside others and be influential for good
- Not self-centred
- Change agents for good – ambassadors of light

CONSUMING JESUS