



This week I began my usual fall routine in the yard. Each fall I over seed my yard with winter rye grass. The advantages are amazing when I do this: a beautiful green yard all winter. The bright green always helps contrast the darkness and gloom of such short days and cold weather. This practice also helps me keep lawn equipment running as I have to cut the grass each month at least once. But, possibly the greatest advantage comes in the spring. It's when the rye grass dies and gives way to fresh growth of my regular grass. The former root system of the rye grass leaves behind small holes or pathways for water and air to get down into the soil just enough to



help naturally promote the new grass to grow and green up!

This week, as I began this annual practice, I was able to think about the significance of this work in relation to the ministry I am called to fulfill. You

see, there is something unique about the process of sowing seed! The goal is to evenly distribute the seeds across the ground to cover the whole yard. I've tried using a wheeled spreader, yet in the end, every time I turn to the manual method of one handful of seed at a time and casting the seed repeatedly and intentionally. As you try to visualize this or maybe recall having done this yourself, think about the implications. The thought of paying close attention to each toss and matching up the next spread of seed to blend evenly with the last...over and over thoroughly covering the entire yard from edge to edge...the intentional tossing of seeds into corners and easily missed locations.

For twenty years now, I have sought to lead One Way Ministries in the spreading of seed into the mission field. The systematic distribution of the Gospel message across reservations, villages, communities and cities has been the center of every trip. I have tried to focus on the forgotten, impoverished, and desperate people groups.

Much of the time invested has been given to indigenous people groups both in the US and internationally. It is very easy to consider blindly throwing seed out in a random fashion and be content with that being all you can do. However, as I have learned with grass, it takes a little more intentionality to cover the entire yard! It takes a very pointed effort to commit to long-term sowing to cover every area of a community.

As you read this, will you consider the impact the past year has had on the efforts to sow in every corner of the community? The work in many locations around the world has continued without short term teams and yet, the need remains great. I have continued to communicate and share with our brothers and sisters on the ground in every location. Plans are being made to return to walk alongside these dear friends in 2022. In the mean time, there is much work to do in planning, preparing, and building teams. During these days with travel limited and trips cancelled, the local church has stepped into the primary role of leading the outreach efforts. Just like the rye grass that dies in the spring and leaves a hole in the soil, that easily can be filled with good teaching and encouragement. The work in the field is ready for more teaching and encouragement.

Over the coming weeks and months, much work will be done to plan and prepare trips for 2022. Pray with me for wisdom and discernment as plans are made. Give to support the work in the early stages as plans are being formulated and finalized. Finally, go with us back into the field to share and show the Gospel. Even with new protocols and guidelines changing, the urgency of going does not fade. Now is the time for us to step up and commit to being involved in the revival of the short term missional experience. It is time for us to share with the church in many locations still struggling, that we will come and bring hope and truth with us as we share the Gospel in every way possible. Join us in every way you can to share and show the truth of the Word with all that God brings across our paths! Help us reach the world and teach the Word!



Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.
(Matthew 28:19-20)

As believers, we have publicly made a commitment to Christ and we are called to live out our faith. He has given us a mission in life, and we have the responsibility to be faithful to fulfill His command. It isn't a suggestion; it is His desire for us. It should be **our** desire to honor Him. In doing this, we can truly be part of God's church. To be the church, we need to embrace what it means to live out this mission.



We need to stay in step with Him. If we are true believers and are walking with Him daily, it will be evident by the fruits we are producing.

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. (Galatians 5:22-25)

Dangers exist when we don't take time for Him and neglect to follow Him. We run the risk of backsliding. We are to be intentional and understand that our walk with Christ involves seeking Him and following Him daily. When we are doing this, He will show us how to reach the lost and equip us with the tools that we need to do it.

We all have baggage, those things that pull us away from him. Jesus looks beyond all of the baggage in our lives and sees the potential in us all. He has a plan and a purpose for each one of us. We are to do the same for the lost of the world. His mission is for us to reach them, meet them where they are, and lead them to Him.

It is our **opportunity** to bring people to Jesus, to be used by God to truly help impact people in a powerful way so they can be dramatically changed. Where would we be if He had not done that for us?



"For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost." (Luke 19:10)

Ask God to open your eyes today and help you meet people who need Christ. If we ask, He will not only open our eyes but also open doors of opportunity for us to share with them. We must simply make the commitment to follow through to bring them to Him.

