**Fruitful part 2 – Weeding, Watering, and Waiting**

**Leader’s Notes**

1. **Read Ecclesiastes 11:4,6. Why do some people not plant good seed?** (They’re afraid of they might lose their investment). **What should our attitude be towards planting good seed?**  (Take risks and invest by sowing good seed).
2. **What’s so bad about weeds in a garden, and in our souls?** (Weeds grow faster than most desirable plants. They compete for the space. They compete for the moisture. They compete for the nutrients. And they’ll take over!
3. **Why do we need to eliminate weeds? Read Heb. 12:15.** (The reason we have to get rid of the weeds is because we want the good seed to grow and become fruitful. Weeds defile our soul.
4. **What weeds suck the life out of your relationship with God the most?**

(Video games, T.V., Facebook, Finances, Sports, Shopping, Friends, Food, Parenting challenges, Work, other). **What advice does Jesus give in Matthew 7:1-5 that governs this area of weed pulling?** (Inspect your own life, but don’t condemn the lives of others).

1. **Read 1 Cor. 3:5-9.** Paul uses a metaphor of watering seed. **What does he mean by this**

**metaphor? How does watering increase the harvest?**

1. **Is Paul suggesting that the roles of planting and watering aren’t important?** (No. In fact, Paul says there will be a reward for those who plant and water. His point is that God is the one who causes the growth, so any impact we have gives us zero reason to boast. Our role is like a waiter who serves food, or a faucet that carries water. The food and water are more important than the conduit.)
2. **How can your home group better work together to see growth and bear fruit?**
3. **How does prayer water the seed and help others grow in their relationship to God?**

**Agree or disagree: Prayer without work is laziness, but work without prayer is presumption, and fruitless.**

1. **Read James 5:7,8. Who do you need to be more patient with?**
2. **Read Gal. 6:9. What good activity, which may eventually lead to a harvest, are you tempted to give up?**
3. **What example can you give to illustrate the principle: The harvest is always in a different season than when we plant.**