

Are We There Yet?

Isaiah 54:2

Prayer of Jabez,

“Jabez cried out to the God of Israel, ‘Oh, that you would bless me and enlarge my territory! Let your hand be with me, and keep me from harm so that I will be free from pain.’ And God granted his request.”

—1 Chronicles 4:10

Growth requires—

1. A Secure **Anchor**.

“Enlarge the place of your tent, stretch your tent curtains wide, do not hold back; lengthen your cords, strengthen your stakes.”

—Isaiah 54:2

Growth Requires—

2. A Deepening **Faith**.

“Deep calls to deep.” —Psalm 42:7a

Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. ⁶But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root.

—Mark 4:5-6

Leaves = Visible growth

Roots= unseen depths

Leaves **Matthew 5:14-16**

Light, salt, and good works.

Roots **Matthew 6:1-24, 7:1-29**

Hidden giving, praying, fasting, and investing
Trusting, accepting, believing, and building on the Word of God.

Growth requires—

3. Preparation for the **Future.**

For you will spread out to the right and to the left; your descendants will dispossess nations and settle in their desolate cities. —Isaiah 54:3

Fertilize in the fall, greener lawn for coming spring.

Deeper stakes for enlarged cords and canvas.

Plans for Fall of 2008 --stake pounding

1. Staff All Ministry Areas
2. Building Picture by October 26.
3. Teaching weekend in November

Plans for 2009

1. Two Sermon Series with accompanying Small Group Studies (Spring, Fall)
2. Un-Mission trip to involve the entire Church.
3. Fall Holy Spirit Conference, Evangelistic weekend.

Plans 2010

1. Confirmation Class Project, Heaven's Gates/Hell's Flames
2. Church mission trip to Piura, Peru

How deep are your roots?

How firm are you tent stakes?

Memory Verse:

Enlarge the place of your tent, stretch your tent curtains wide, do not hold back; lengthen your cords, strengthen your stakes. —Isaiah 54:2