

Planting the Right Seeds to Reap the Harvest of Marriage

It wasn't that long ago that I was single and waiting on the Lord to bless me with a Godly mate. I wanted someone for the long haul—a husband—someone that I could enjoy spending the rest of my life with. I would often think to myself, what more is required of me to attract a lifetime partner? My life was already filled with lots of love from family and friends, job was secure, I felt my spirituality was growing in the Lord day by day, but for some reason I wasn't making sufficient strides towards what I desired most. I remember a strong, wise, spirit-filled sista said to me *"Kim, there's no reason for you to still be single"*. As a matter of fact, a few people made this statement to me. I was so busy searching for a husband, that the impact of this simple piece of truth didn't hit my consciousness. I was looking for a complicated answer, constantly questioning, *"Father, why don't I have a husband?"* I desired greatly to be married to a Godly man, but for the life of me I couldn't understand why I was single for such a long time.

Well Sistas, there's one thing that we must accept and it is this, the truth always comes in small doses. Why? Because it is often so difficult for us to handle. The love of God is simple, just like the sista's plain and simple comment to me. The truth is also plain and simple, but sometimes it's painful too; and we don't want to see it. So I continued to search my soul and pray in the spirit, and finally I arrived at the answer. It was in front of me all along—I hadn't planted enough of the right kind of love to reap the harvest of a husband. This was a whammy that really knocked me over the head. I was doing so much already, and I couldn't imagine that I could do more. But you see, the children of God are supposed to operate out of the overflow; I didn't quite have that part of the equation down pat. Yes, I was incredibly busy, but I wasn't busy doing the things that would move me closer to what I wanted.

The truth was hard to hear and hard to swallow, that my spiritual growth required more sacrifice and more work on myself. I had done so much purging, reevaluating, and surrendering that to be truthfully honest, I was getting a little weary of the work, but I knew I couldn't give up on the journey. Galatians 6:9 (NLT) kept coming to my mind, *"So let's not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up."*

You see sometimes we think we're on the right track. We think we're doing all the right things, when in actuality we are not as tuned in to the spirit as we think. Only God knows the plan for your life. Only God knows the plan for your husband's life. And whether you want to believe it or not, very often times His plan is completely opposite from yours. God's chief desire is that you and your husband grow in the spirit. Your life's lessons are specifically designed to achieve that

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purpose. If you are not inclined presently to process the fact that you must grow in ways that stretch you way beyond your comfort zone, then you are still not ready for the plain and simple truth.

Although your desired physical attributes for a husband bears some importance, you must remember that you are endeavoring to make a spiritual connection. That means that you don't always get the man you think is right for you. As a matter of fact, this is the case more often than not. God plants a man in your life who will help you to grow into the woman that He desires you to be. Sometimes this has nothing to do with your present agenda.

So I had to dispense with a lot of my preconceived notions. I had to force myself to remember constantly that in order to reap the blessings, I had to first plant the right kind of seeds into God's Kingdom, and I hadn't done that. There was still much work that needed to be done. God was expecting much more from me because He knew that I could give much more. I hadn't yet scratched the surface of what I was capable of giving. Not only was God expecting much more from me, I needed to understand that He wasn't keeping my husband at bay; I needed to get out of my own way and put forth the right action, then I would be able to see that the blessing was right in front me all along.

You might look around and ask yourself "*where have all the good men gone?*" But you must realize with crystal clarity that our Heavenly Father is not lacking in any way, shape, form, or fashion. He's a God of the plenty and full! And He has supplied the fields with plenty of harvest. God said in His Word that He has provided everything we need in the earth – and that includes the husband you seek. So the question is—have you planted the right seeds to reap the harvest of marriage?

The Bible teaches us in Hosea 10:12, "*Plant the good seeds of righteousness, and you will harvest a crop of love. Plow up the hard ground of your hearts, for now is the time to seek the LORD, that he may come and shower righteousness upon you.*" Oh my Sisters, our hearts must be so tender for marriage, because it requires such a tremendous walk of faith. You must be prepared, and you must be receptive to the fact that there is more for you to do to GET prepared. The Father knows that you desire a husband to spend your life with, just like He knew the desires of my heart, but He will not foster our immaturity, neither will He reward it.

We become too comfortable with ourselves, to the point that we forget how to tap into His love in the ways that we should. You may have forgotten that God is a bountiful giver; and that blessing you with a man that equals your capacity to love is not an insurmountable task. As Rev. Fran said recently, "*As Children of God, our occupation and business is to always please the Father.*" You must build a continuous momentum of praying and right action—planting the good seeds of righteousness by putting God first in all you do. Then, when your heart is tender and spacious enough to accommodate the care and life of another, God will shower you with the harvest of love you seek!●

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