

1 Corinthians 3:6

I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase.

You have probably heard that when we share the gospel, we are planting seeds into the hearts of others. Or maybe someone else has planted a seed (Shared the gospel with someone) and you are now talking to them about Jesus, so you are watering that seed that was planted by someone else. Now as today's devotional verse says that we plant the seed or water it, but God gives the increase, meaning He will make that seed grow to produce fruit, which would be salvation for that person.

✠ **Philippians 1:11 (NLT)** *May you always be filled with the fruit of your salvation—the righteous character produced in your life by Jesus Christ—for this will bring much glory and praise to God.*

But, here's another thought. If you are planting seeds into the hearts of others, what will those seeds produce, fruit or weeds?

"What are you talking about?", you may be thinking.

Let me give you an example. The job I do as a consultant, we all live in hotels. Well sometimes people are not happy with the hotel they are in, so they will want to be in a hotel that someone else is staying in. Why, well because as they say, the grass is always greener on the other side, so people think. But this happened here to someone, and they found out the grass wasn't really greener, but it was worse than where they were staying.

So, what was planted may have seemed greener, but was it green because of fruit, or green because of weeds?

Jesus told this parable:

✠ **Matthew 13:24-25** *Another parable He put forth to them, saying: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field; but while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat and went his way.*

This is not all of the parable, and you need to read the rest for yourself in the bible. But what tares are, are weeds, that when they are growing they look just like wheat. You can't tell them apart until they are grown.

So, what are you sowing into the hearts of others? Are they words that may sound good, but are not scriptural at all, but rather, your own opinion? If so, those are tares or weeds you are planting into the hearts of others. And there is no fruit that's produced in weeds.

But if you are speaking the word of God to others, then you are planting wheat or seeds of fruitful words that bring life.

Jesus sowed good seeds into the hearts of all He came in contact with, and Peter knew this and testified of it when he said to Jesus.

† **John 6:68** *But Simon Peter answered Him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.*

So, what are your words doing in the life of others?

† **Proverbs 10:11 (NLT)** *The words of the godly are a life-giving fountain; the words of the wicked conceal violent intentions.*