

## No. 13 Reap the Rewards of Genuine Faith (Circuit overseer)

### *Note to speaker:*

This concluding talk emphasizes the main points of the assembly program. To reap the promised reward, we must sow “with a view to the spirit” now

### **JEHOVAH IS “THE REWARDER OF THOSE EARNESTLY SEEKING HIM” (6 min.)**

Jehovah values what his worshippers do to please him (*w13 11/1 11*)

Faith moves us to trust that he rewards those who diligently seek him [**Read Hebrews 11:6**]

His very name is involved in this promise

Faith like that of Abraham is shown by action (*Ge 22:1-3; w04 5/15 28*)

Jehovah blessed Abraham in everything because of his faith (*Ge 24:1; Isa 41:8*)

The program today had the goal of helping us cultivate genuine faith more fully

[Briefly review the main points of the program, and show how the scriptures answer the review questions]

In this final talk, we will answer these questions:

How do we overcome obstacles to our spiritual progress?

How can we sow “with a view to the spirit”?

What rewards await those who have genuine faith?

### **FAITH ENABLES US TO OVERCOME OBSTACLES (10 min.)**

At times, we face mountainlike obstacles [**Read Matthew 17:20**]

Build faith by asking Jehovah for holy spirit (*Lu 11:13*)

Faith is an aspect of the fruitage of God’s holy spirit

Even if we sow a seed of faith the size of a mustard grain, with the help of holy spirit, our faith can grow large enough to help us overcome our problems

What more can we do to build and maintain strong faith? [**Read Romans 12:11**]

Do personal study, digging deep to search for Bible truths (*Heb 6:1, 2; Jas 1:25*)

[Relate an encouraging point presented at a recent Life and Ministry Meeting]

Regularly participate in the ministry (*Ro 10:13-15*)

[Relate a local experience showing the encouraging effects of sharing in public witnessing or another form of the ministry]

Take note of fulfilled prophecies in the Bible; these provide you with powerful reasons for having faith

[Consider a few examples of recent refinements to our understanding of certain Bible prophecies, published in *The Watchtower* or in the *2016 Yearbook*, pages 25-27]

Seek assistance from congregation elders and circuit overseers, whose primary responsibility is to build up God’s people (*Eph 4:8, 13*)

As teachers, these “gifts in men” help us to build firm faith based on Bible teachings

Faith strengthens us to be loyal and obedient to Jehovah and his organization

When a family member is disfellowshipped, will we respect the decision, or will we become critical of the elders?

When the organization asks us to consider moving to another congregation in order to make better use of Kingdom Halls and to save dedicated funds, how will we respond?

There is no shortage of ways to build and manifest faith, so let us take advantage of all these wonderful provisions that Jehovah and his organization are making available to us

### **“SOWING WITH A VIEW TO THE SPIRIT” BRINGS BLESSINGS NOW (8 min.)**

To maintain our faith, we must constantly sow “with a view to the spirit” [**Read Galatians 6:7, 8**]

“Sowing with a view to the spirit” involves living in a way that allows God’s spirit to operate freely on us and wholeheartedly participating in activities that promote the flow of the spirit

We will reap the results of our actions, either for good or for bad

Our sowing with a view to the spirit is clearly seen by God and demonstrates genuine faith (*w00 3/1 31 ¶1*)

The Scriptures give us powerful reasons for adhering to God’s standards [**Read Proverbs 28:20**]

We avoid the terrible consequences of a debauched life

[Relate experience regarding Adrian Perez in the August 1, 2008, *Watchtower*, pages 27-28]

We enjoy a clean relationship with our brothers and sisters

We enjoy the privilege of approaching our heavenly Father in prayer, convinced that he will hear our petitions and act

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**“SOWING WITH A VIEW TO THE SPIRIT” WILL BRING EVERLASTING BLESSINGS** (10 min.)

No doubt, you long for all the blessings of God’s Kingdom (1Co 15:24)

Imagine the near future when . . .

Rebellion is no more (Re 20:7-10)

All treat the name of Jehovah as holy (Ps 150:6)

You can build and occupy your own home (Isa 65:21-23)

Your dead loved ones are brought back to life (Ac 24:15)

Suffering and death are no more (Re 21:3, 4)

[As time allows, use the cited scriptures to create a vivid mental picture of future blessings]

We have the grand hope of receiving the prize of everlasting life

Should we face death, God’s promise to resurrect all of those in the memorial tombs sustains us

We cannot fully please Jehovah without faith in the reward he has promised (Heb 11:6)

Jehovah deeply appreciates the fine works of his people (Heb 6:10)

Your genuine faith will unquestionably lead to everlasting blessings

**Review question: What gives us confidence that those with genuine faith will be rewarded?**

**Answer: Hebrews 11:6; Jehovah is “the rewarder of those earnestly seeking him.” To be rewarded for our genuine faith, we must avail ourselves of the help he provides through his Word and his spirit-directed organization**

May your faith continue to grow as you await the fulfillment of all of God’s promises

(Speaker does not need to read or comment on every cited text or discuss every subpoint)