

# Some Kind of Seed Bowl

In our hands, we hold a handful of seeds: gifts of God which he has given us to use: to bake bread, so to speak, AND/OR to sow in the ground, so to speak, in hopes of a harvest of righteousness, so to speak.

As a short AFTERWORD to the "Time to Sow" series, and as a preview of next month's launch of a series of studies from 1 Peter called "Holy Hopes," I would like add another detail to the metaphor.

PICTURE THIS: A bowl to carry the seed in. Something we can carry the seed in.

It might be made of gold. It might be made of silver. Or of wood or of clay. And WHAT IT IS MADE OF should matter to you because *it matters to God*.

Q. Why does it matter to God what these bowls are made of?

A. Because we ARE these bowls!

**2 Timothy 2:20-22** Now in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver but also of wood and clay, some for honorable use, some for dishonorable. Therefore, **if anyone cleanses himself from what is dishonorable**, he will be a vessel for honorable use, set apart as holy, useful to the master of the house, ready for every good work. **So flee youthful passions** and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.

What use God makes of these bowls, that is, *what use God makes of us*, depends on what sort of bowls we are.

Christians are kind of funny people. In all sorts of ways. Some not "Funny Ha Hha". Funny weird.

And we should try not to be any more weird than we have to be. But we have to seem sort of weird to people in some ways, and here is one of them.

While other people ("normal people") say "Don't use me!" "You're just using me!!!"  
"Stop using me!"

Christians say to God, "O Lord, use me!" It's what we hope for: to be used by God.

What the apostle Paul wrote to Timothy:

"If you want God to use you, especially if you want him to use you for honourable use:

→ cleanse yourself from what is dishonorable

→ flee youthful passions: sex, of course, but also the strong desires for fun and excitement and fame and being popular and being admired and being cool: Not that there is anything wrong of any of these things if they are part of the life that God has made for you --- but they can rush you away from God's ideas for your life, so in some cases, you need to flee.

**Psalm 16:11** You make known to me the path of **life**; in your presence there is fullness of **joy**; at your right hand are **pleasures** forevermore.

→ pursue righteousness, faithfulness, love and peace with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart!