

**Encountering Jesus**  
**10. Jesus' food (John 4v27-42)**

John Percival

**Introduction**

- what work should Christians do?

**The workers for the harvest (v27-30)**

- enthusiastic
  
- honest

**The priority of the harvest (v31-38)**

- physical food
  
- spiritual harvest

**The fruit of the harvest (v39-42)**

- growing faith!
  - the woman's witness
  - Jesus' words

**Conclusion**

**John 4v27-42 (NIV)**

<sup>27</sup> Just then his disciples returned and were surprised to find him talking with a woman. But no-one asked, "What do you want?" or "Why are you talking with her?"

<sup>28</sup> Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, <sup>29</sup> "Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Christ?" <sup>30</sup> They came out of the town and made their way towards him.

<sup>31</sup> Meanwhile his disciples urged him, "Rabbi, eat something."

<sup>32</sup> But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you know nothing about."

<sup>33</sup> Then his disciples said to each other, "Could someone have brought him food?"

<sup>34</sup> "My food," said Jesus, "is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work. <sup>35</sup> Do you not say, 'Four months more and then the harvest'? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. <sup>36</sup> Even now the reaper draws his wages, even now he harvests the crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together. <sup>37</sup> Thus the saying 'One sows and another reaps' is true. <sup>38</sup> I sent you to reap what you have not worked for. Others have done the hard work, and you have reaped the benefits of their labor."

<sup>39</sup> Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I ever did." <sup>40</sup> So when the Samaritans came to him, they urged him to stay with them, and he stayed two days. <sup>41</sup> And because of his words many more became believers.

<sup>42</sup> They said to the woman, "We no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Savior of the world."