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Spring is here...well, most days.

If your community is like mine, I am seeing many farmers out working to get their fields prepped for planting season, which may have already started by the time you read this. In the Midwest, we are blessed to see this cycle of God's provision in full. But since I'm not a farmer, how does God ready me for growth?



We have all been through situations where we prayed and then expected something to happen immediately. I'm not saying that He can't, because we know that miracles happen by His word alone. However, that would be like a farmer consistently planting in late April and expecting a crop every year by Mother's Day. I struggle with remembering that God's timing is not mine. And His plan for our lives—how He is growing us through life's challenges and celebrations—is always better.

The story of the sower in Mark 4, for example, is basically saying that growth depends on the Holy Spirit's work inside you—and on what we do with our mindset, our habits, and the environment we put ourselves in. If our life is full of worldly distractions, which we often get caught up in, it's like trying to grow something in bad soil, on a rocky path, or in thorns. But if you're intentional and focused on God's word and will, you give yourself a real chance to thrive. Then there's the idea that growth takes time, like a seed growing quietly underground. You don't always see progress right away, but that doesn't mean nothing's happening.

I believe one way to grow is to gather and do activities together with your fellow Christian believers. Outreach and fun often go hand in hand; they enrich our lives, and we build strong relationships that encourage our faith. If you want ideas or would like to share some things you are doing, please reach out to me.

Isaiah 61:11 “For as the soil makes the sprout come up and a garden causes seeds to grow, so the Sovereign Lord will make righteousness and praise spring up before all nations.