



Dear Friends,

When Good Friday rolled around, (the traditional time that farmers are supposed to wait to put the seeds in the ground) we didn't waste any time getting outside. The idea of getting dirty was okay, and the bright sunshine was sure different than artificial light in a classroom. Fresh air is a good thing.

As I finished plowing and organized the students to help with the actual act of opening the ground in "straight" rows, it became painfully obvious that I was the only one who knew what to do. The garden turned into a classroom. They learned that proper preparation of the ground is critical. Some plants can't be too close to others to prevent cross pollination. A totally new concept for them.

What seems so elementary to a seasoned farmer is NEW Information to guys who have spent most of their adult life in another world. A world far removed from farming (except for an occasional marijuana plant that no one would admit to doing.)

Then, it was time to show how to space the seed a certain distance apart and cover them gently with just the right amount of dirt. It was entertaining. From a bent over position, I heard Chris say, "Pastor Wayne, I bet you probably have a Bible lesson about planting seed". BINGO! BANG! HALLELUJAH! He got the picture. Yes, I do have a sermon or two on this very topic.

Yes, THE BIBLE SAYS, "THAT UNLESS A GRAIN OF WHEAT FALL INTO THE GROUND AND DIES, IT CAN'T PRODUCE FRUIT".

The Bible says, if a man puts his hand to the plow and looks back (the row will be crooked), he is not worthy of the kingdom. Jesus also taught that tares (weeds & thorns) will grow up among the good plants. So, our job at Adult & Teen Challenge is to get rid of the weeds. This means the junk in our lives.

If these guys will hang in with us for the year, we intend to grow a good crop in their lives as they watch this garden grow. One day they will harvest the fruit and enjoy the benefit of the backbreaking work they are doing now. YES, PASTOR WAYNE HAS A SERMON IN WAITING FOR EACH STAGE OF THE GARDEN. Thank you, Christopher, for reminding me that gardening is a great teacher in life.

Please help us this month, as we alter our daily schedules to get classwork done and keep the garden clear of weeds. We look forward to the vegetables and melons that will be on the table soon. (Another one of my jobs is to keep the DEER and BEAR out of the garden, since they love the same things, we love.) Any suggestions are appreciated...I already have an electric fence that needs to be mended after the bear got in it last season.

Thank you so very much from "Farmer Powell" in the garden. We know you love us and pray for us daily. Your part in this journey is critical to these men's future. God bless all your Gardens as well!

Helping Hurting People,

Rev. Wayne Powell

Rev. Wayne Powell
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If you are involved in a church or any community groups, Auxiliary Meetings, Ladies and Men's Meetings, we would love to come visit, give a presentation of our ministry and help spread word of Adult & Teen Challenge. 843-520-4888