

A Farmer Who Never Plowed a Field

By Allen Webster

When He visited earth, Jesus laid aside His regal purple robe to don the coarse dress of the common man.

When Jesus laid down the scepter, He picked up a hammer. He gave up stardust for sawdust. He exchanged the singing of angels for the pounding of nails. He went from framing worlds to framing houses. If you had shaken His hand, you would have felt the calluses put there by countless hours of physical toil. If you had overheard His conversation, it would have been about measurements, plumb lines, and estimated dates of completion.

Yes, Jesus was a carpenter (Mark 6:3), but why? He could have been anything. Unlike us, He was not limited by natural talent or opportunity. Nothing was beyond His capability or beyond His control. He was a jack-of-all-trades, a ten-talent man, a prodigy, and a genius all rolled into one. He could have been born into any family circumstance He wanted or attended any educational institution He chose. He could have had any profession.

This line of reasoning presents some interesting possibilities. Jesus did not choose to be a farmer. There would have been some logic in the Son of God coming as a farmer. He was the One who gave us "seedtime and harvest" in the first place (Genesis 8:22; John 1:3). He created the very earth and put life into the tiny seed (Genesis 1:11–12). He made the earth fertile, trees fruitful, and vegetables edible. He invented the water cycle and gave the former and latter rains in time for harvest (Ecclesiastes 1:7; Jeremiah 5:24; Matthew 5:45). To be the provider for man's basic needs would be appropriate for the One who had given His people manna from heaven (Exodus 16), Israel a land that flowed with milk and honey (Exodus 3:8; 13:5), and Elijah and the widow a constantly full flour barrel and oil cruse (1 Kings 17:14).

Nonetheless, so far as we know, Jesus never pushed a plow nor picked a tomato. He never inhaled the scent of newly turned earth nor felt the sweat run down His back as He picked beans under a hot July sun. He never smiled as He saw the first bud breaking the ground in the spring, or sighed as the last wagonload of produce came out of the field in the fall.

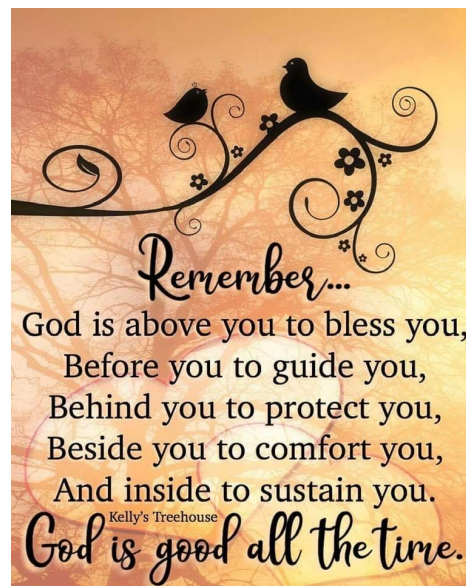
This is all true, but He was still the "Sower who went out to sow" (Matthew 13:3). His seed brought forth thirtyfold, sixtyfold, and a hundredfold (Mark 4:8). He has "filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent away empty" (Luke 1:53). And on Pentecost, He watched as His crop brought forth three thousand souls (Acts 2:41).

What is involved in Jesus being the Sower?

(continued next week)

Prayers and Concerns

- ◆ Dale Strong had 3.5 hour brain surgery Thursday to repair a hole. Surgery was successful, and he is in ICU. He will be in the hospital 5-6 days, and then home for 6 weeks.
- ◆ Don Luna will have an angiogram on Tuesday, April 21st, to determine blockages.
- ◆ Tinker's mother had to go to the hospital, but she is back in Ava assisted living now.
- ◆ Justin Hubbard's father had a swollen prostate which led to a sepsis infection and kidney failure.
- ◆ Remember those with health issues—Larry Butler, Dale Strong, Aletha Collins, Lloyd Ellis, Rene Blackburn, Ruth Strain, Bob Robbins, Coe Hamm.
- ◆ All those battling cancer—Jamie Crisp, Ricky Langston, Lisa Langston, Tiffany Pleasant, Amy Myers, Don Luna, Jim Kirkland, Wayman King, Donna Shipley, Elaine Hunter (Larry's sister), Dawn (Chris Lemburg's sister), Lionel Daugherty, Jana Crisp, Richard Blackburn, Sharon Fox, Bill Agee, Joy Cutbirth, Dan Hardy.
- ◆ GHCC: Virginia Hambelton, Delphia Holmes. Clifford Lansdown at Hiram Shaddox; Wilbern Uchtman at Brook Haven.
- ◆ Homebound: Vernon James, Steve Siebels, Mary Piepergerdes.



Holy

IS THE WAY GOD IS.

TO BE HOLY HE DOES NOT
CONFORM TO A STANDARD.

HE IS THAT STANDARD.

HE IS ABSOLUTELY HOLY WITH
AN INFINITE, INCOMPREHENSIBLE
FULLNESS OF PURITY THAT IS
INCAPABLE OF BEING OTHER
THAN IT IS.

--A. W. TOZER

A big thank you to Kathy Fox for crocheting and donating the beautiful afghans for others to enjoy.

Birthdays		Anniversaries	
3-18	Karen Langston	3-8	Doyle and Peggy Johnson (40)
3-18	D. E. Pleasant	3-31	Dana and Marsha Crisp
3-22	Renee Hambelton	4-7	Jim and Pat Kirkland
4-4	Nichole Lane	Birthdays	
4-6	Barbara James	4-11	Vicki Smith

Vicki will be serving chicken and dumplings, sides, and dessert for our Wednesday night fellowship supper before classes.

Community Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday April 4th

We will fill eggs Wednesday, April 1 at 5 p.m.

Date	Event	Details
Sat. April 4	Easter Egg Hunt— 1000 eggs hidden	11:30 for 5 and under 11:45 for 6 and up
Sat. April 11 Mammoth See flyer	Women's Night of Worship—Pre-event 4:00-5:45; Service 6:00	"Seated in Sisterhood" Melinda will be one of the participants.
Saturday, April 18, 10 a.m.	Ladies' Prayer Brunch	We are hosting. Jane Wade Reynolds is our speaker.
Saturday, May 2 8:30-1:00	Ladies' Day at Smith Chapel Church	Kara Hambelton Johnson is the speaker.
Saturday, June 13, 9-2	Vacation Bible School	Take a trip to Rainforest Falls

April Worship Assignments

Welcome & Shepherd's Prayer

Today John Abraham
4-5 Mark Lane
4-12 David Stevens
4-19 Don Luna
4-26 John Abraham

Communion & Closing Prayer

D. E. Pleasant
Waylon Strong
Matt Kyle
Dana Crisp
Titus Smith

Song Leader: John Abraham

Greeters: Dana and Marsha Crisp; Don and Barbara Luna

The Family News

March 29, 2026

Gainesville Church of Christ

PO Box 7, 23550 US Hwy. 160, Gainesville, MO 65655

www.gainesvillechurchofchrist.org

A Place to Call Home

We welcome you and are so glad you could worship with us today.

Schedule of Services

Sunday

9:30 a.m. Bible Classes for All Ages

10:30 a.m. Worship Service: ***Foundations of Christian Worship***

Wednesday

6 p.m. Fellowship Supper

7 p.m. Bible Classes for all ages

Sunday Worship Outline

Welcome and Shepherd's Prayer

Kids Singing up front

#66, *Doxology*; #76, *How Great Thou Art*

#360, *Go to Dark Gethsemane*; Communion Service

#18, *Faithful Love*

Sermon and Invitation

#943, *Do You Know My Jesus?*

#429, *Oh, to Be Like Thee*; Closing Prayer

Offering baskets are located at the back.

*We are a community of redeemed sinners who are
following Jesus Christ, proclaiming the gospel of grace,
loving our Lord and one another.*

Elders

Mark Lane 417-679-4835
Don Luna 417-712-1945
David Stevens 417-679-4700
John Abraham 870-421-5632

Deacons

Dana Crisp 417-331-5090
James Langston 870-315-4355

Preacher

Halbert Smith 417-257-3880

Ministers: Every Member—Each One of Us