

# DIVINE GLORY MINISTRIES, INC

*Triple* **15**

**Sunday School**

Mobilizing the Gospel  
through Application

APOSTLE MELINDA JONES SUTTON, D.D., FOUNDER  
CHIEF APOSTLE JESSE SUTTON, D.D., OVERSEER  
DGMINC.ORG | 850.385.4850 | DGM@DGMINC.ORG  
537-A SILVER SLIPPER LANE TALLAHASSEE, FL 32303



# THE YEAR OF AGRICULTURE



Triple 15

Sunday School

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The mission of Triple 15 Sunday School is to teach the people of God how to live daily in God's will. The teachers of this class will accomplish this through directional prayer, mobilization of the word through personal application, small group in-depth study, and demonstration for conversion.

We believe, all scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. According to 2 Timothy 3:16-17 NIV we will teach to propel all people into their true identity in Christ.

## **2024 The Year of Agriculture**

In 2024, we will aggressively increase our learning in agriculture, farming, and vegetation. This year Divine Glory Ministries, Inc will acquire its own garden in Tallahassee. The harvest produced will be sold and given away in the future seasons.

Each lesson in the Triple 15 curriculum will support our efforts in cultivating soil, producing crops, raising livestock and the preparation of plant and animal products for people to use for food and non-food products.

Join us in the journey as we excel in the path of agriculture.

In agriculture, the process of cultivation is important to ensure there is actually a harvest produced from one's efforts. This quarter we will explore each phase of cultivation with emphasis on the need to engage the process in its entirety to ensure success.



# Cultivation Matters

## Unit 4: Lesson 1 April 21, 2024

### Personal Application Points

**IDENTIFY** the purpose of vegetation.

**ACCEPT** the responsibility to steward vegetation.

**PLANT** a food-bearing seed within one week and continue to cultivate it.

Genesis 1:11-12 & 29

*11 Then God said, "Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds." And it was so. 12 The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good.*

*29 Then God said, "I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food.*

### Background & Current Times

The book of Genesis has the first mention of vegetation with an accompanying definition and outline of purpose. At the mere command of God, vegetation came into existence and there was food for man before they came to be. What's also significant about the vegetation is God had a plan for the sustainability of it by ensuring what He created was seed-bearing. This served to be a divine forecast for what God expected us to do concerning reproduction of crops and disciples. Genesis provides a wonderful backdrop for what we were all to anticipate as believers in the field of his Kingdom.

According to KJV dictionary, a seed is "the substance, animal or vegetable, which nature prepares for the reproduction and conservation of the species." Without seeds, there is no opportunity for anything to be produced absent of being altered, typically through genetic modification and other forms of advanced science. Genetically modified organisms (GMO) are popular and used widely since they support rapid growth, less expensive production, and crops that are more resistant to being impacted by pesticides. On the other hand, GMOs also have reported downfalls that can impact human long-term health. Some of which include, developing foods that can cause allergic reactions, production of foods with less nutritional value, and antibiotic resistant crops.

<https://av1611.com/kjbp/kjv-dictionary/seed.html>



# Cultivation Matters

## Unit 4: Lesson 1 April 21, 2024

### Digging Deeper

The scripture passage outlines that the purpose of vegetation is indeed for food. Not only that, He calls it good. It is important to note the purpose in view of personal acceptance of this truth. Some view vegetables as unwanted additions that lack flavor and excitement to daily diets. While others perceive vegetables to be necessary additions without fully embracing the nutritional and natural benefits to overall health and wellness. Then, there are some that completely embrace the fullness of good as ascribed by God and enjoy vegetation in its entirety. This can look like exploring various fruits and vegetables, increasing consumption, and intentionally learning about their benefits. Despite where one may fall on the spectrum, according to the word, they are still good. Good in this sense extends beyond human preference, desire and enjoyment, but also speaks to the divine characteristics of what was created by God.

The scripture goes on to engage its reader by stating “give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it.” It is so vital that we perceive this passage as an acceptance of responsibility to steward not simply a product for mere consumption. Stewardship of course can be done through various methods. However, the call for this house is to steward through growth! Let’s cultivate the ground and produce!





# Preparing the Soil: It's Plow Time

Unit 5 Lesson 1 May 5, 2024

## Personal Application Points

**EMBRACE** the call to plow.

**REJECT** habits of laziness.

**SCHEDULE & ENGAGE** in plowing land in preparation to sow seeds before May 26.

*Proverbs 20:4 NIV*

*4 Sluggards do not plow in season;  
so at harvest time they look but find nothing.*

## Background & Current Times

The Book of Proverbs is widely known as the book of wisdom. It boasts of hundreds of scriptures that give guidance, warning, instruction, and encouragement. This book was penned by King Solomon who ruled over all of Israel. He was known to be the wisest man to have lived, thus ascribing the significance of taking heed to his words. More importantly, Proverbs is so widely ranged that its principles are applicable to all aspects of life.

Plowing is an essential step in the process of cultivation. Plowing is the process of preparing soil prior to planting the seeds by loosening the soil. Plowing is beneficial because it:

- Can improve circulation of air.
- Supports the ability for roots to penetrate the soil.
- Intensifies water retention.
- Uproots weeds that could choke new crops.

The depth one should plow depends on several factors and generally should be done between 3-10 inches. See below for a general reference guide.

- Shallow plowing... 3-4 inches.
- Medium plowing... 5-6 inches.
- Deep plowing... 7-8 inches.

Plowing can be done a number of ways depending on land mass, manpower, and availability of equipment and supplies. Historically, some common ways to plow include the use of animals drawing sharp metal equipment behind them at times guided by a human. Also, handheld tools can be used. Lastly, more industrial equipment can be used like large tractors pulling more than 10 plows at a time.



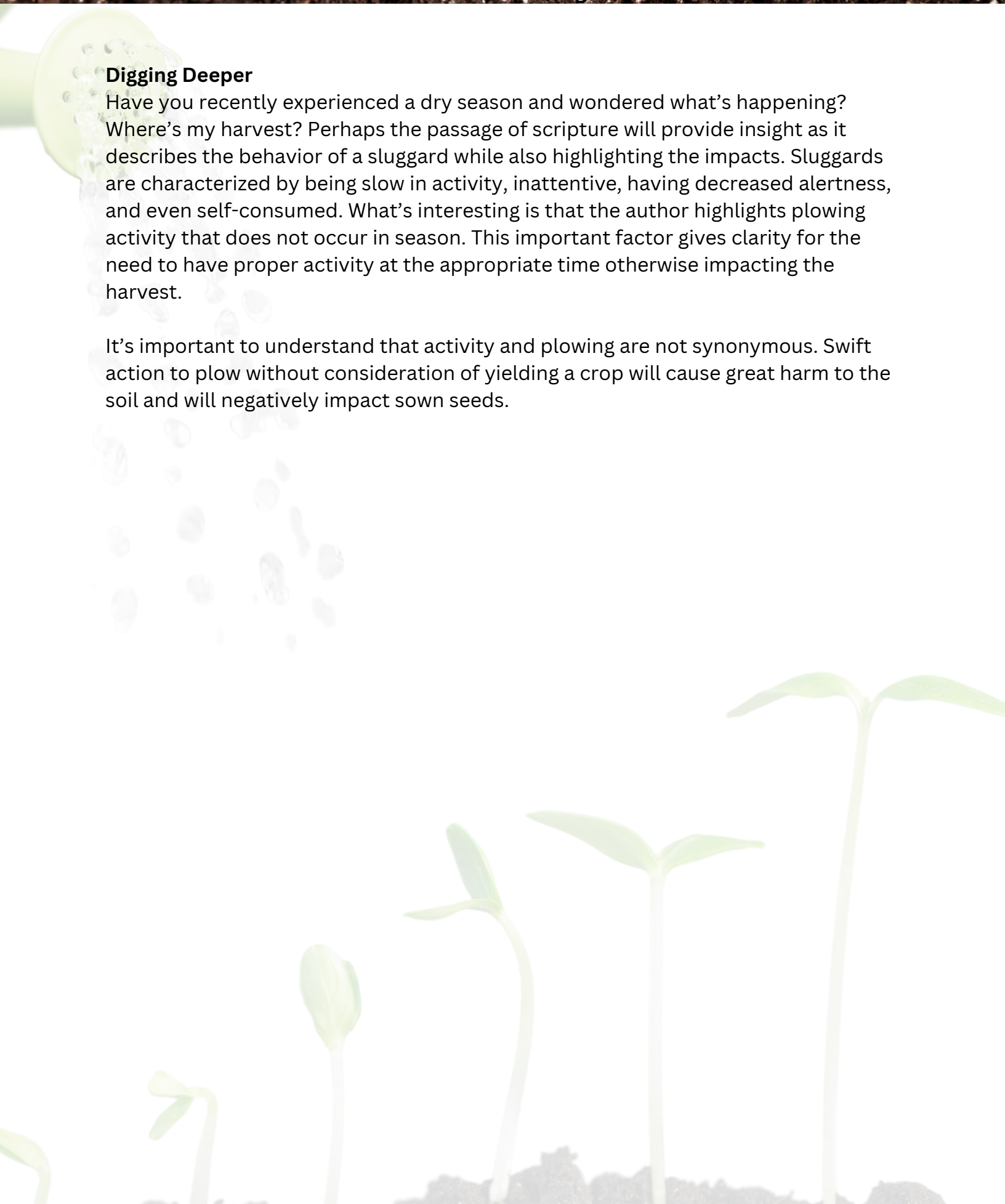
# Preparing the Soil: Its Plow Time

Unit 5 Lesson 1 May 5, 2024

## Digging Deeper

Have you recently experienced a dry season and wondered what's happening? Where's my harvest? Perhaps the passage of scripture will provide insight as it describes the behavior of a sluggard while also highlighting the impacts. Sluggards are characterized by being slow in activity, inattentive, having decreased alertness, and even self-consumed. What's interesting is that the author highlights plowing activity that does not occur in season. This important factor gives clarity for the need to have proper activity at the appropriate time otherwise impacting the harvest.

It's important to understand that activity and plowing are not synonymous. Swift action to plow without consideration of yielding a crop will cause great harm to the soil and will negatively impact sown seeds.





# Preparing the Soil: Its Plow Time

Unit 5 Lesson 1 May 12, 2024

## Personal Application Points

**SOW** in expectation.

**REJECT** being a victim to the crops of the seeds you have sown.

**CULTIVATE** your spiritual and natural seeds by committing to being aware and active in the process of growth.

Galatians 6:7-8 NIV

*7 Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows.*

*8 Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life.*

## Background & Current Times

The book of Galatians was written by Apostle Paul to the church in Galatia. Many teachings found in this book were practical and supported the ongoing growth and development through maturity. Specifically, chapter 6:1-10 places emphasis on how the believers act towards one another.

The sowing of seeds is the next step in growing vegetation after plowing has been completed. It is important to note that one can only yield the type of harvest that is reflected through what has been sown. One cannot yield corn when he indeed has sown tomatoes. In the same way with our spiritual lives, one should not anticipate a harvest of bounty in Christ when they have sown in faithlessness unto God.

## Digging Deeper

This passage of scripture is a sobering call to attention to one's own adopted belief concerning the law of sowing. Often, men carry the posture of being disturbed and bewildered recipients disconnected from the reality of what they have sown. Men become bombarded with life circumstances of others and are unprepared to respond, yet they expect the peace of God when there was no time invested in prayer, reading the word of God, meditation, or simple worship of the Father.

More importantly, yielded crops do not change and cannot be manipulated. They are as they have been sown. This truth can indeed serve as an encouragement to sow seeds for the type of harvest one expects and desires. It's also a call to engage responsibly in sowing through intentionality and humility.

# Fertilize by Faith & Works

## Unit 5 Lesson 3 May 19, 2024

### Personal Application Points

**IDENTIFY** areas where fertilizer is needed for your spiritual and natural growth.

**FERTILIZE** your plants.

**EMBRACE** the path to growth and choose a posture of humility.

James 2:14-22 NIV

*14 What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? 15 Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. 16 If one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it?*

*17 In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.*

*18 But someone will say, "You have faith; I have deeds."*

*Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by my deeds. 19*

*You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that—and shudder.*

*20 You foolish person, do you want evidence that faith without deeds is useless[a]? 21 Was not our father Abraham considered righteous for what he did when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? 22 You see that his faith and his actions were working together, and his faith was made complete by what he did.*

### Background & Current Times

This passage in the book of James provided key fundamentals to a successful life as a professing believer. The principles of faith and work support the same principles needed in all areas of life. Thus, fully equipping the believer with the necessary perspective to defeat immaturity and irresponsibility in the faith.

By Faith Farms began in 2011 after a dream in 2007 that compelled a woman to believe God desired her and her husband to buy land, grow food, and give it away. She and her husband obeyed and took steps to move forward and below are their founding beliefs:

- We believe that if you ask for guidance, it will be provided. God has guided us to this farm at this time. All people involved are meant to be a part of this mission.
- All of us have individual gifts. If we synergistically combine those gifts, we can create abundantly more.
- "We are what we eat." We can impact many lives by providing quality, organic food.
- We believe in health responsibility, food justice, and hunger relief.



# Fertilize by Faith & Works

## Unit 5 Lesson 3 May 19, 2024

### Background & Current Times continued

Finally, she shares: “I prayed fervently that He would guide us and send us the people who would help us in this mission. And He has done that.” To date, By Faith Farms has donated 145,000 pounds of food, generated 125,000 volunteer hours, and provided 580,000 servings of food from their farm.

This story is the image of faith and works combined unto the benefit of many.

<https://www.byfaithfarm.com/ourstory>

### Digging Deeper

“Faith without works is dead” is a common phrase at times used as a cliché absent of accepting the true weight it carries. This passage in the book of James is a message compelling the believers not only to evaluate their practices of faith in deeds, but also to compel them into a place of sober mindedness. As we continue along the path of growing crops in expectation of a harvest, it is important to consider the need for faith as the ultimate fertilizer to ensure our crops are nurtured and have the nutrients needed in order to produce a good harvest.

This passage is a call to align one’s behavior with his proclaimed beliefs to demonstrate the validity of both. How can our deeds be proven absent of faith? How can our faith be validated absent of deeds to support them? Take time to fertilize areas of your life holistically in order to reap a harvest.

# Obedience Dependent Irrigation

## Unit 6 Lesson 1 June 2, 2024

### Personal Application Points

**IDENTIFY** the most effective irrigation source for your seeds.

**REPENT** for relying on your efforts absent of obedience to God.

**CONTINUE** to seek God to grow your seed.

*Deuteronomy 11:10-14 NIV*

*10 The land you are entering to take over is not like the land of Egypt, from which you have come, where you planted your seed and irrigated it by foot as in a vegetable garden. 11 But the land you are crossing the Jordan to take possession of is a land of mountains and valleys that drinks rain from heaven. 12 It is a land the Lord your God cares for; the eyes of the Lord your God are continually on it from the beginning of the year to its end.*

*13 So if you faithfully obey the commands I am giving you today—to love the Lord your God and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul—14 then I will send rain on your land in its season, both autumn and spring rains, so that you may gather in your grain, new wine and olive oil.*

### Background & Current Times

In the eleventh chapter of Deuteronomy, Moses is still speaking to the Israelites about following the commands of God. In this passage, he is speaking to the nation about the land of Canaan which is the land God promised to the Israelites. In describing this land, Moses informs the people that this land is different from Egypt where they had come from. Egypt was flat and was irrigated by the Nile River. However, Canaan contained uneven land, hills, and valleys, which meant there was no significant rivers. Canaan's irrigation would be dependent upon rain. The scripture states that the land of Canaan is a land that God cares for and continually watches over it. God promised that He would send rain for the land to produce if the Israelites obeyed Him, loved Him, and served Him with all of their hearts.

When seeds are planted, they need water to germinate (sprout). Irrigation is the process of supplying water to crops through various means rather than solely relying on rainfall. Without irrigation in areas where there is little or seasonal rainfall, agriculture cannot be sustained.



# Obedience Dependent Irrigation

Unit 6 Lesson 1 June 2, 2024

## Background & Current Times continued

Earlier forms of irrigation included individuals manually transporting water from natural water sources such as rivers or canals. However, modern forms of irrigation include tanks, reservoirs, sprinkler systems or some form of water channeling. Although there are several means to water plants, it is God who makes the plants productive. In the same way, we cannot expect to be successful in our efforts alone. It is obedience that compels God to release what we need for producing.

## Digging Deeper

It is God's desire that we reap a harvest from our labor. However, it is not without our obedience and reliance upon Him that we should seek success. When we enter into our lands of blessings, it is not for us to be self-reliant. The irrigation we need to experience continual growth as we plant in the land God has given us is directly linked to our love, obedience, and service to God. As we fully love, obey, and serve God, He releases the rain from heaven for growth. Any efforts to be successful outside of the aforementioned will only lead to anger, exhaustion, and frustration. We must repent from our futile efforts that exclude God as the source.

# Weeds Won't Win

## Unit 6 Lesson 2 June 9, 2024

### Personal Application Points

**IDENTIFY** ways you have been a sluggard.

**DENY** the temptation to blame another for your lack of growth.

**IMPLEMENT** methods to protect your plant from weeds.

*Proverbs 24:30-34 NIV*

*30 I went past the field of a sluggard,  
past the vineyard of someone who has no sense;  
31 thorns had come up everywhere,  
the ground was covered with weeds,  
and the stone wall was in ruins.  
32 I applied my heart to what I observed  
and learned a lesson from what I saw:  
33 A little sleep, a little slumber,  
a little folding of the hands to rest—  
34 and poverty will come on you like a thief  
and scarcity like an armed man.*

### Background & Current Times

The book of Proverbs is known as the book of Wisdom. Most of it is written by Solomon, son of David, and he is accredited as the author. Chapter 24 is divided into sayings and today's focal scriptures are part of "Saying 30". It describes what was observed in the field of a sluggard, defined as one who has no sense. The observation was that thorns and weeds permeated the field essentially ruining it. The lesson that was presented in the latter verses is that being a sluggard and irresponsibility will yield poverty and scarcity.

Weeds can be devastating to your crops as they compete with your crops for light, nutrients, and water. Resultantly, if not properly managed, weeds will reduce the crop's yield. Good weed management is necessary for a successful crop. Preventing weeds from growing is the most important factor in weed management. Herbicides can also be used to eliminate weeds after they have germinated. Another way to reduce weed production is by using cover crops. These are crops that are planted between crops and allow the cover crop to grow instead of weeds. Whatever method is selected for weed management, it is necessary for one to be attentive and take action to prevent weeds from taking over and jeopardizing the crops.



# Weeds Won't Win

## Unit 6 Lesson 2 June 9, 2024

### Digging Deeper

Cultivation is intentional and necessary for success both spiritually and agriculturally. We must be attentive to what God has given us to grow and cultivate as there is always an enemy lurking to cause failure in which we are called to be victorious. Being a sluggard causes one to miss the weeds that exist to compete with and eventually kill our crops. The scripture is not to discourage rest and slumber as these things are important. On the contrary, it is imperative that rest and slumber are at the appropriate time and don't cause us to neglect cultivating our crops. Some weeds can be prevented altogether, and others can be managed so that we don't produce a field of weeds, but crops from what we have planted. It is our responsibility to cultivate well.



# Reaping A Harvest

## Unit 6 Lesson 3 June 16, 2024

### Personal Application Points

**ABANDON** unrealistic expectations when proper work hasn't been done.

**WORK** in the proper season.

**HARVEST** your crop.

*Proverbs 20:4 NIV*

*4 Sluggards do not plow in season;  
so at harvest time they look but find nothing.*

### Background & Current Times

Again, Proverbs provides us with wisdom on sluggards and what they have to look forward to at harvest time. The beginning of verse four details the irresponsibility and error of sluggards and the result is illustrated thereafter. The text implies that there is a certain season in which one is to plow in order to see results at harvest time. If plowing does not occur when it's the season to do so, one can expect to find nothing.

Harvesting is not as simple as it sounds, but it is rewarding. There are several ways to harvest and several steps in doing so. It begins when a crop matures and is cut for further processing. The methods of harvesting include manual harvesting (hand harvesting), harvesting with hand tools, and machine harvesting. Regardless of the method, there is a process in harvesting. The process begins with reaping (removing mature parts), followed by threshing (separating food grains from crop), cleaning, stacking (for storage), bagging, and storage. The overarching principle here is that this process cannot be completed if a crop has not been properly cultivated prior. There is no reward where no work has been done.

### Digging Deeper

There's no such thing as reaping a harvest from something that has not been planted. This may seem like an obvious principle. However, many look for a harvest without having done the things necessary. God desires that we enjoy the benefits of a harvest and He has given us every tool necessary. In order to reap a harvest, there must be work done before in the proper season. A sluggard operates with unrealistic expectations. The sluggard is unwilling to move beyond places of comfort to obtain what is expected. Do the work so the harvest you seek will be available.



# Storing: Provision for Tomorrow

## Unit 6 Lesson 4 June 23, 2024

### Personal Application Points

**ACCEPT** your work now is for your benefit tomorrow.

**DENY** taking for granted your provision.

**STORE** some of your crop that has been harvested.

*Genesis 41:49; 56 NIV*

*49 Joseph stored up huge quantities of grain, like the sand of the sea; it was so much that he stopped keeping records because it was beyond measure.*

*56 When the famine had spread over the whole country, Joseph opened all the storehouses and sold grain to the Egyptians, for the famine was severe throughout Egypt.*

### Background & Current Times

The life of Joseph is powerful. We see him introduced in Genesis as a young man with a dream, loved dearly by his father and hated greatly by his brothers. This hate from his brothers resulted in him being sold into slavery. Joseph endured many things after being sold by his brothers, but they all led to him being in a favored position of leadership in Egypt. Joseph was elevated and was in charge of ensuring food was available for the impending famine. During the time of abundance, Joseph orchestrated food storage so numerous that an account could not be kept. This wisdom in storing food proved successful as when the famine began, all of Egypt and all over the world were able to receive a provision of grain.

In a 2006 Dreamworks animated film, a group of unsuspecting animals wake up from hibernation ready to store food for the winter. However, they find that the forest that they'd lived in had become a house king development. The group of animals met another animal, with ulterior motives, and that animal convinced them to abandon their usual practice of obtaining and storing food for a new method. The group reluctantly trusts the "outsider" and follows his lead for storing food from humans. Shortly after, the other animal's motive is finally revealed and the group realizes that precious time for food storage had been wasted. Following a series of events, the food the group secured is lost. Nevertheless, one of the young animals in the group discovers a large quantity of food hidden and stored from a previous season, which proved to be enough to sustain the animal group. This movie proves the importance of storing for later provision.

# Storing: Provision for Tomorrow

Unit 6 Lesson 4 June 23, 2024

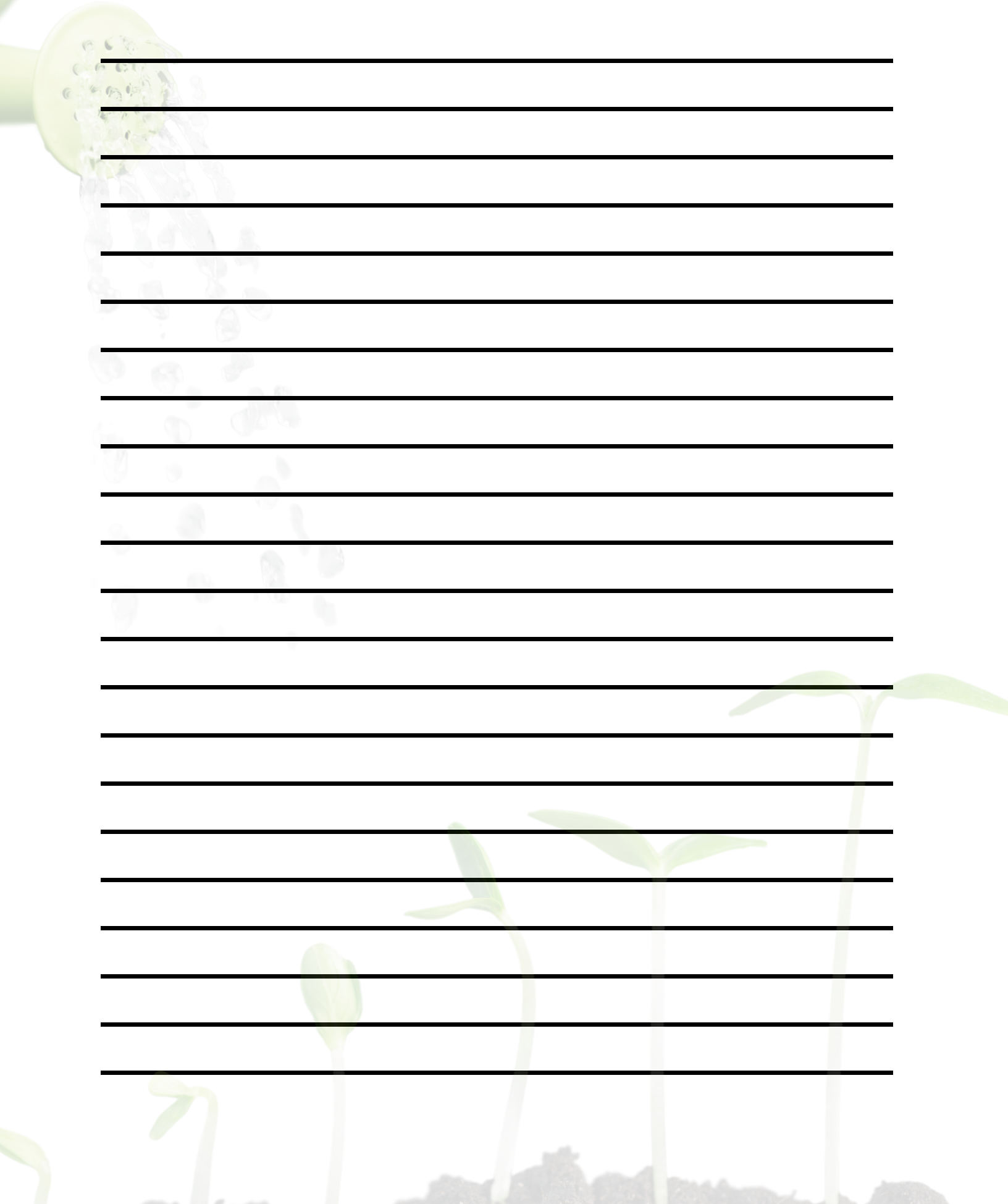
## Digging Deeper

Storing is important to the one who realizes that life is much bigger than the here and now. Storing ensures that what has been worked for and harvested is preserved in a way that makes it available for use at a later time. Storing the harvest requires necessary steps be taken to keep your crop from spoiling. Many things can affect your crop such as weather conditions and storage location. Proper storage is a responsibility that ensures that your crop is stored in a way that's best for that crop. An appreciation for what one has invested in motivates proper storage. When one understands that storage is necessary to sustain in the future, it causes a greater level of care in storing. How can you protect what God has given you so that you can benefit tomorrow?





# NOTES







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