A harvest despite the challenges

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As an ‘outsider’ coming into this harvest season, it seems miraculous that there is even a harvest to be had. I’ve heard the quip “I felt a drop of moisture this week… only problem was it came from the spit of a grasshopper.”

In spite of the lack of moisture… there is a harvest.

Jesus must have experienced something similar. In the parable of the sower (Mark 4), he listed many things that should have prevented a harvest: rocky soil, scorching sun, plantings too shallow, and weeds choking out the good plant.

Yet, in spite of all of the challenges, there was a harvest, not only a harvest, but a bountiful harvest!

Then Jesus compared the harvest in his story with the harvest of people coming into the kingdom in spite of people’s shallow understanding of the scriptures, people’s lack of faith, and people deserting the faith when the least little challenge came their way.

In spite of the challenges, God’s enabling Holy Spirit produces a miraculous harvest!

The weeds of negativity make us choke and we don’t share God’s love. What’s the use? Our society is so bad! We limit God’s power when we forget it’s our job to plant and God’s job to produce the harvest.

This parable gives us hope as we strive to offer God’s grace. There are many opportunities to plant, to share God’s grace and love. God will produce the harvest.

We are to persevere in our planting. Scatter the seeds of Jesus’ love: a word of encouragement, a hand of service in Jesus’ name, a vision of hope of life eternal through Jesus Christ.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then Jesus said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few: therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.” Matthew 9:35-37

God will produce the harvest as we keep planting the seeds. Pray for the harvest.