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The Visitor

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*Join us in our journey to becoming
fully-devoted followers of Jesus!*



God Makes It Grow!

It's that time of year again—sweet corn harvest! Some timely mid-July rains have caused the sweet corn at Grandma Mickey's to explode with growth. Once again, her entire plot of corn has come due at the same moment, despite planting it weeks apart. The green beans have been over-producing as well, and it looks like we'll have plenty to put up for the winter. Some of our other plants have not fared so well—our onions had to be tilled under after being overgrown with a mess of weeds on the heels of inches of rain which led to boot-fulls of mud and the inability to pluck the unwanted plants from the field. All of this has me asking the question: Why do some plants grow and produce a bountiful harvest while others flounder in the field? Jesus says in Matthew 13 that it has something to do with the soil. The soil of some hearts is stubborn, while others are shallow and still others are distracted. The same sower, the same seed, the same sunshine, the same situation... and yet vastly different results. We work hard here at Wymore Church of Christ to create an environment for spiritual growth. We point people to God's Word, the Bible, which must take root in people's lives for growth to occur. We encourage people to reach out to other followers of Jesus around them because spiritual growth happens best in groups. We strive to love and serve those in our congregation and community. And yet not everyone responds. We cannot magically force someone to grow spiritually. And people can't really even TRY to grow spiritually. No plant ever grew from TRYING to grow! No plant ever produced fruit while TRYING to produce fruit. The right environment must exist for growth to occur. And yet it all gets back to the soil of our hearts. We can't force growth, we can't try to grow, but we can put ourselves in the best position to grow and produce fruit, and that includes preparing the soil of our hearts. So, let's take some time out of our summer schedules to do that. Before the busyness of school and sports, before the grind of fall football and work schedules, ponder the soil of your soul and prepare your hearts for God to produce spiritual growth and a harvest in your life. ☺