



Growing Faith

18 - Autumn | 20 October 2023

Harvest – What should we remember in this season?

Written by Mr Allen, History Department

'I would firstly like to thank Mr. Pountain for giving me the opportunity to contribute to this month's Growing Faith Bulletin. Faith is very important in my life, and it has been a pleasure to witness the growing youth church since joining the staff at St Christopher's. The focus of this month's bulletin is, very appropriately, harvest time.

Harvest is more important to our daily lives than most people believe. Farmers work hard to reap their produce in order to provide us with the food necessary to sustain us and keep our country going. In the same vein, we in our youth church must also sow seeds for God in order to reap his rewards. This could be something as simple as helping our friends or someone in need.

Harvest also has a prominent place in the Bible and rightly so. For example, the parable of the Sower (Mark 4: 1-9) tells us that we must be careful of where we "plant seeds" in our life and that the right conditions are necessary to have a good crop and that we must be patient and try hard in order to achieve this. This can be applied to many aspects of life, from outside the school to daily school life, and from the youth church to the classroom. For example, homework. In the parable, the first seed that fell by the wayside did not grow as it had no soil to protect it from the birds. In homework terms, this "first seed" could be your initial decision to strive and complete your homework early, but in reality, forgetting about it completely and not finishing it at all.

The second seed fell on stony ground and initially grew, but with little soil to sustain it, it withered away. This could represent an initial interest in a topic after hearing your teacher talk about it, but when the time came to apply it to your homework, the interest had withered away and there was no real attempt to excel. The third seed fell on the ground near thorns, where the crowded soil choked the growth of the seed. This "third seed" in your lives could represent once again the initial interest to engage with your studies, but due to the "crowded" nature of your lives, such as going out with friends, games or just "having fun" distracting you and "choking" your will to work on the things that really matter, it did not amount to much. However, the fourth seed fell on good ground and produced a good harvest. This can be representative of you, if you were to devote your attention fully to your homework and wider studies, truly reaping the rewards that follow.

All this can also be applied to your faith. Do not forget the word of the Lord after leaving school or the youth church. Do not allow your faith to wither away or be choked by the cares of the world. Instead, allow your faith in God to find good ground and flourish, providing a rich harvest for you and those around you. The many members of our youth church help to provide such a harvest, but there is always room for more help. As Jesus said in Matthew 9: 37-38...



“The harvest truly is plenteous but the labourers are few. Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.”

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Youth Church Reflection

by A Kelly, Year 9

“He raises up the poor from the dusts, he lifts the needy from the ash heap to make them sit with princes and inherit a seat of honour. For the pillars of the earth are the lords, and on them he has set the world”

Samuel 1:17

This implies that god can and will help anyone who asks for help, and that he can because he owns the earth and all that is on it.

“The lord will save me, and we will play music on stringed instruments all days of our lives at the house of the lords.”

Isiah 38:10

This shows that whenever we need saving, god will help us. So, the least we can do is praise him for the rest of our lives”

A Song for Reflection



A Prayer

By C Cliff, Year 7

Dear Lord,

Please help us to follow in your ways and follow the words of your son Jesus Christ. We pray for those who are not as fortunate as us and ask that you would watch over them.

We pray this in your name.

Amen

Church Support

Church Services

Please visit these church websites to see when their services are taking place:

Great Harwood Christian Fellowship: [Website](#)

St John's and St Augustine's Church, Huncoat: [YouTube channel](#)

St Peter and St Paul's Church, Rishton: [Facebook Page](#)

St. John's Church, Baxenden: [Website](#)

Peel Street Baptist Church: [Website](#)

All Saints Church, Clayton-le-Moors: [Facebook Page](#)

St James' Church, Clitheroe: [Website](#)

Burnley Life Church: [Website](#)


St Mary Magdalen's Church, Accrington: [Website](#) / [Facebook Page](#)

St Andrew's Church, Accrington: [Website](#)

St Peter's Church, Accrington: [Website](#)

Brave Church: [Website](#)



 **Queens Road West
Accrington
Lancashire
BB5 4AY**

 **01254 232 992**
 c.pountain@st-christophers.org

 www.st-christophers.org

