

Sharing the Bounty: Stories from the Good News Garden Movement Reflection Guide



Note: This guide can be used for personal reflection or within the context of a small group, after you have watched the accompanying short film.

READ

Mark 4:21-25 and 2 Corinthians 9:6-12

CONSIDER

Jesus tells us that a spirit of generosity will produce more generosity, while the act or posture of stinginess will only impoverish.

Writing to the early church—those first followers of Jesus in the ancient city of Corinth—the Apostle Paul reminded us that when it comes to living, looking, and loving like Jesus, both our actions and attitudes matter. When we share what we have with a spirit of generosity—without judgment or prejudice, conditions or limits, trusting God to work through and in our offering—we are sowing seeds of love in the world. And it is those seeds of love—the greatest love of all—that can grow and flourish, changing our hearts and the world.

REFLECT

1. The Sowers of Seeds Community Garden at St. Dunstan's in Davison, Michigan, draws inspiration from Paul's words and has found various ways to scatter seeds of generosity and love through their Good News Gardens ministry. As you reflect on the words of Jesus and Paul, what stands out to you? Which portion challenges or encourages you?
2. As you reflect on the story of St. Dunstan's, consider how you and your church or diocese can scatter seeds of abundance and love within your community through the creative and generous use of your church land. What could that generosity look like?

PRAY

For the Right Use of God's Gifts

Almighty God, whose loving hand hath given us all that we possess: Grant us grace that we may honor thee with our substance, and, remembering the account which we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of thy bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Book of Common Prayer, p. 827)