

*Come Holy Spirit
Use me to Your glory*

Precious Pilgrim,

I close my eyes and imagine myself seated back on that rocky hill overlooking the glorious harp-shaped Sea of Galilee. The shimmering water almost mesmerizes one as it seems to dance with the rhythm of the minister's voice. He reads the familiar words of the Parable of the Sower. That's Mark 4, verses 3 through 20. Jesus says, "Listen, a farmer went out to sow the seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path and the birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky places where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly because the soil was shallow, but when the sun came up, the plants were scorched and they withered because they had no root. Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants so that they did not bear grain. Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up, grew and produced a crop multiplying 30, 60 or even a hundred times." Then Jesus said, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear." When he was alone, the twelve and the others around Him asked Him about the parables. He told them, "The secret of the kingdom of God has been given to you. For to those on the outside, everything is said in parables so that they may be ever seeing but never perceiving, and ever hearing but never understanding. Otherwise, they might turn and be forgiven." When Jesus said to them, "Don't you understand this parable? How then will

you understand any parable? The farmer sows the Word. Some people are like seed along the path where the Word is sown. As soon as they hear it, Satan comes and takes away the Word that was sown in them. Others, like seed sown on rocky places, hear the Word and at once receive it with joy, but when they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the Word, they quickly fall away. Still others, like seeds sown among thorns, hear the Word but the worries of this life, the deceitfulness of wealth and the desires for other things come in and choke the Word making it unfruitful. Others, like seeds sown on good soil, hear the Word, accept it, and produce a crop 30, 60, or even a hundred times what was sown.”

Thank you, Lord, for that Word.

Previously, Pilgrim, I've always concentrated on where each tiny seed landed and prayed hard that I wasn't like one of those unfortunate ones, planted, and growing in the wrong spot.

This particular reading changed my focus however. For you see, as the minister read each sentence, he added the motion of reaching into an imaginary bag and grabbing an imaginary handful of seeds and with a grand half circle sweep of his arms, he'd swing imaginary seeds.

We learned that this method of planting was called “broadcasting” and would have been the method used in Jesus' time. I became enthralled with this imaginary farmer's

planting method and totally forgot about the fate of the seeds. Of course, Pilgrim, it is important, but then and there and now, I decided I wanted to be a "broadcaster." I want to take the good news of our Lord Jesus Christ and graciously, joyfully, extravagantly, prayerfully spread it around.

Of course, my prayer would be that each seed would land on fertile ground. I can't, however, worry too much about that or I'd find myself unable to toss those seeds at all.

Might you, Pilgrim, also want to be a "broadcaster" today? May we, by the grace of God, build those muscles up.

Paul has some good advice. He says in Ephesians 6:14-19, "Stand, therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace. Above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one, and take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God, praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance in supplication for all the saints. And for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel."

Ah, Pilgrim, that sounds like a prepared broadcaster -- don't you think? May we also become a bold "broadcaster" for the Lord.

*I am your sister in Christ,
Lucy*

God bless.