

rather than sitting back,
farmers know they must look
ahead to prepare for the next
year if they want another harvest.

Just like the farmers, we must look
ahead and prepare for the future. We
must get right with God before it is too
late. He is our Maker, and though we
have ignored Him and turned away from
Him, He still loves us. He shows it every
year by providing for us.

But His greatest gift was sending His
Son to earth to save us. Jesus lived the
life we should have all lived, but then
died paying the penalty for all of our sin.
All our wrong was laid on Jesus as He
suffered on the cross. Three days later,
Jesus conquered death, rising from the
grave. Jesus is alive.

Each of us need to turn from our own
way and ask Jesus to become our Lord
and Saviour. We need to ask Him to
forgive us for our sin and give us new
life in him. Nothing could be more



1. Genesis 8:22; 2. Psalm 24:1; 3. Mark 4:26-29

important, for what we do with Jesus
determines our eternal home of either
heaven or hell.

The hymn "Great is Thy
faithfulness" says it well:

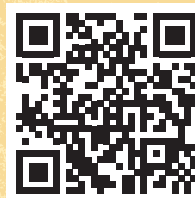
*Pardon for sin and a
peace that endureth,*

*Thine own dear presence to
cheer and to guide;*

*Strength for today and bright
hope for tomorrow,*

*Blessings all mine, with ten
thousand beside!*

This harvest time, will you thank God
for His goodness, trust Jesus to forgive
you, and turn to Him to be your Lord and
Saviour? God, by His Spirit, will live in
you, making you His forever.



To find out more about
Jesus Christ please visit:
tell-me-more.org

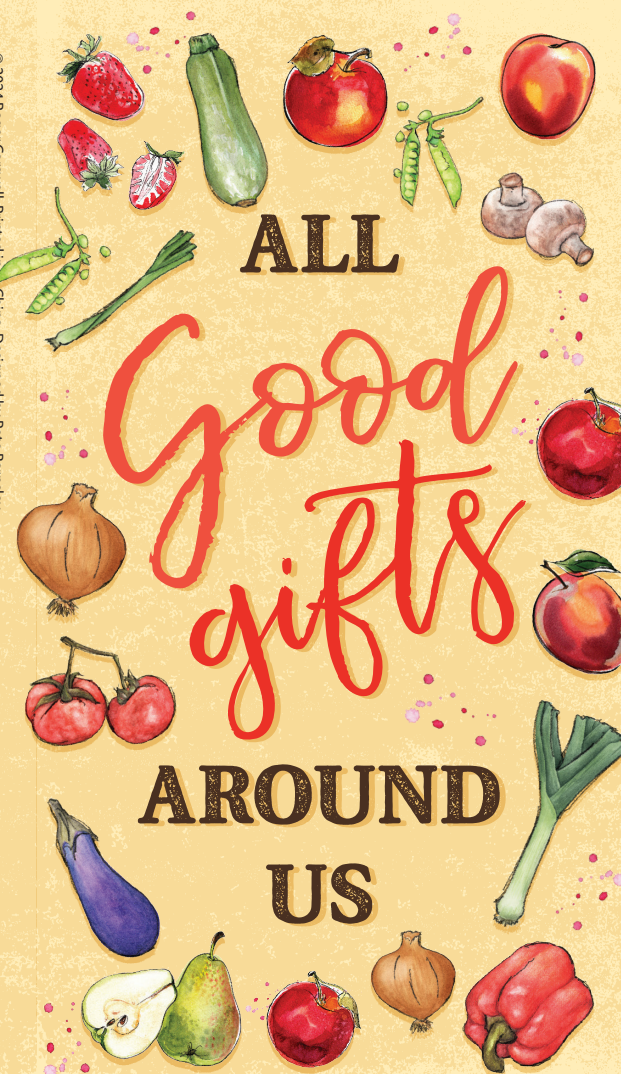
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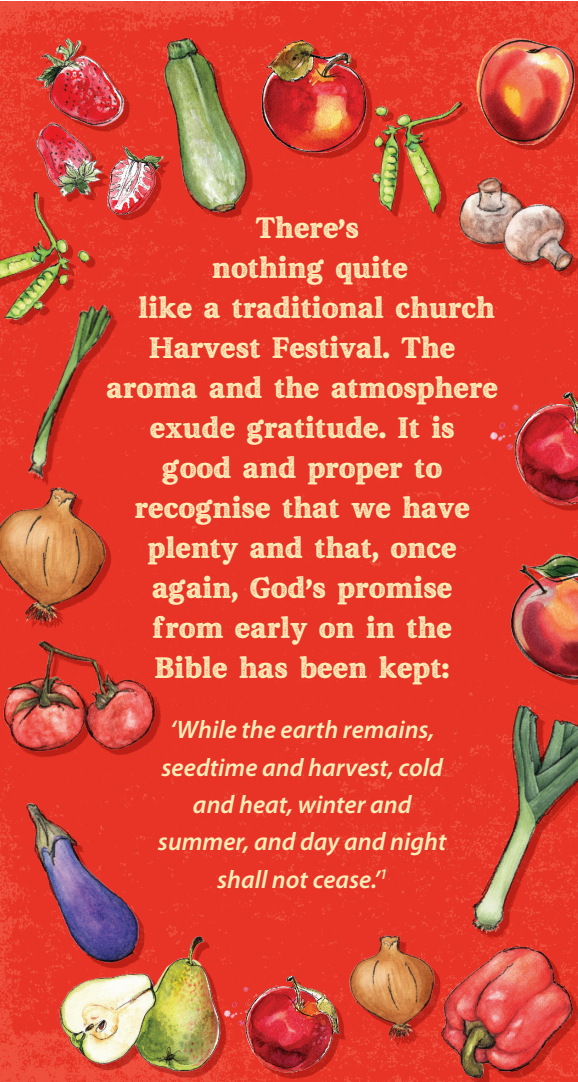
Written by Roger Carswell

10 Publishing
a division of **10 of those**.com
www.10ofthose.com

DayOne
www.dayone.co.uk

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There's
nothing quite
like a traditional church
Harvest Festival. The
aroma and the atmosphere
exude gratitude. It is
good and proper to
recognise that we have
plenty and that, once
again, God's promise
from early on in the
Bible has been kept:

*'While the earth remains,
seedtime and harvest, cold
and heat, winter and
summer, and day and night
shall not cease.'*¹

HARVEST IS A TIME OF THANKS





Months ago, fields were prepared and seed was sown. Now the harvest has been gathered in and we again wonder at the miracle of it all. Behind the hard work of the farmers stands the Creator God who gives life to each seed:


*We plough the fields and scatter
The good seed on the land;
But it is fed and watered
By God's almighty hand.*

*He sends the snow in winter;
The warmth to swell the grain;
The breezes and the sunshine
And soft refreshing rain.*

*All good gifts around us
Are sent from Heaven above;
Then thank the Lord, oh, thank the Lord
For all His love.*



At harvest we pause to remember that 'The earth is the LORD's, and all its fullness.'²



It brings to mind a cartoon of two farmers looking at the countryside. One turns to the other and says, 'I like the Artist's use of green in the bottom left-hand corner!'

Whether living in the city far from fields, or in the countryside surrounded by farms, we are all grateful that food has been provided for another year.

It is a good thing to give thanks for the abundance we have.

HARVEST IS A TIME TO TRUST





It is with a sense of trust that farmers plough the ground and sow their seed. Then they wait. Eventually, the weather is just right for harvest and quickly the crop is gathered in.

Jesus used this analogy to illustrate God's work in people's lives when He said:

*'The kingdom of God is as if a man
should scatter seed on the ground, and
should sleep by night and rise by day,*

*and the seed should sprout and grow,
he himself does not know how. For
the earth yields crops by itself: first the
blade, then the head, after that the full
grain in the head. But when the grain
ripens, immediately he puts in the
sickle, because the harvest has come.'*³

The good news of Jesus is like seed being planted in your mind and heart. Sometimes seeds grow quickly, and at other times the process is slow, but as soon as you realise your personal need to ask for forgiveness and new life in Jesus, the time has come for harvest! God has caused His seed to grow, and you mustn't delay. The moment you turn to Jesus, you become a citizen of the kingdom of God – forgiven and saved to have life with God forever.



HARVEST IS A TIME FOR TURNING

Once in a while it is good to stop, re-evaluate and start again. Every autumn,