

Cultivating Seeds of New Life
Great Plains Yearly Meeting
June 2-4, 2022

Matthew 13:1-23

Mark 4:1-20

Luke 8:1-15

There is the sweet communion, the sweet joy and refreshment in the Lord. So, give over thine own willing, give over thine own running, give over thine own desiring to know or be anything, and sink down to the seed which God sows in thy heart and let that be in thee, and grow in thee, and breathe in thee, and act in thee. -- Isaac Pennington

In the silence wait and you will see . . . the earth broken up, and the fallow ground, and a passage made for the Seed. -- Edward Burrough

The Generous Farmer

- The average American is now **at least three generations** removed from the farm. What about you? In what ways do your experiences on the farm or in the garden enhance your understanding of the Kingdom of God?
- If the farmer in the parable is to represent God, what does this farmer tell you about God's character and intention?
- What do the seeds in this story represent?
- In what ways have you experienced the Divine Farmer abundantly cultivating seeds of new life in you?
- What seeds of new life is the Divine Farmer cultivating in Great Plains Yearly Meeting?

Tending the Field

- What soil type do you most identify with (hardened pathways, rocky soil, shallow ground, thorny land, tilled earth)?
- What tending work does the Divine Farmer need to do within you or among Friends to prepare for cultivation?
- When have you witnessed seeds of new life sprouting up in unexpected places?
- How may God be preparing the ground of Great Plains Yearly Meeting?

Celebrating the Harvest

- Where do you see seeds of new life germinating and growing in your life?
- Where do you see seeds of new life germinating and growing in Great Plains Yearly Meeting?
- How will you celebrate the harvest?