

**August 02 / Sunday**

**Corn Hole, or is it Bean Bags?**

Read [Ps. 65:13](#) / [Mark 4:26-29](#) / [2 Sam. 17:17-19](#), [18:31-19:2](#)



**03 / Mon – Agriculturally minded** | Read [Psalm 65:9-13](#)

Corn and other grains are mentioned repeatedly in the Bible in various contexts. Many people in Bible times made their living through agriculture; grain was life-sustaining and a source of revenue. It was sometimes used as an analogy for spiritual truths expressed throughout the Old Testament. Notice how often Jesus also grain or other agricultural illustrations to teach the principles of the kingdom of God. Do any examples come to mind? If so, how would they apply today?

**04 / Tue – Not a coincidence** | Read [Genesis 41:15-40](#)

God used a dream about grain to inform Pharaoh that disaster was coming. How appropriate since the event was a seven-year famine and the only way to survive was to store up grain ahead of time. What mercy was shown to someone who did not worship or even know the true God! Have you ever sensed God directing you to take some unusual action only to find out later how important it had been? Or maybe this happened to someone you know. What conclusion do you draw from these?

**05 / Wed – Food for life** | Read [Exodus 16:31-35](#) / [Psalm 78:23-25](#)

When the Israelites were freed from captivity as slaves, it took 40 years to finally reach the land God had promised them. Never in one place long enough to grow crops, God supernaturally gave them *manna* each day that the psalm writer called the 'grain of heaven'. It was unlike anything ever seen before or since. It resembled a coriander seed and tasted like a wafer made with honey. What are some ways God has provided for you when you lacked basic necessities of body or soul?

**06 / Thu – It is grown, not constructed** | Read [Mark 4:26-32](#) / [1 Corinthians 3:5-9](#)

When you look at the history of the last two thousand years, isn't it amazing that the church has survived? Nations and powerful leaders have risen and fallen, governments and civilizations have crumbled, yet the kingdom of God that Jesus inaugurated through his death and resurrection is still here. Is it because God alone makes things grow? How is the kingdom of God growing in you?

**07 / Fri – Soil testing** | Read [Matthew 13:18-23](#)

In this well-known parable, Jesus describes how powerful the word of God is when it is planted in the right 'soil'. Do you feel like you are not growing as a Jesus follower like you want? Do you feel stuck or dry or discouraged because of the tough times you may be experiencing? You're not alone and there is hope. Today might be a good day to make a quick assessment of how prepared you are to listen for, accept and grow in what God is bringing to your attention through His word.

**08 / Sat – Blessed to be a blessing** | Read [Luke 12:16-21](#)

This successful man seemed only concerned with his own welfare. His plans for the future worked out so well that he decided to sit back and coast for the rest of his days. Read Jesus' final words to see the point of the story. Does this only apply to physical possessions? Is it possible for someone to store up spiritual treasures but never pass them on to anyone else? Is there 'grain' or life-giving words of God you enjoy for yourself that need to share with someone who might be spiritually starving? Ask for opportunities, look around, and then speak up.