

God Promised Seedtime and Harvest

New Words

climate (kli' mit), the kind of weather an area has from year to year.

crop (krop), plants raised in a field for food or other uses.

germination (jēr' mē • nā' shān), growing from a seed into a young plant.

growing season (grō' ing sē' zōn), the part of the year during which crops and gardens can grow.

Reading Together

Do you pull weeds from your garden? Do you pick peas, beans, and strawberries? If so, you already know that a good harvest does not happen by itself. We need to work hard for a good harvest.

What must we do if we want a good harvest? First, we break up the soil. We may use a shovel or a garden tiller to do this. A farmer may use a plow and a disc harrow to break up the soil in his fields.

After we plant the seeds in the soft soil, we may add plant food or fertilizer. This helps the plants grow.

Somehow we must get rid of the weeds. In a garden, we may pull them. Or we may uproot them with a hoe or a garden tiller. We can also smother the weeds with sheets of



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Lesson 1

CONCEPTS TO TEACH

- Man has a part in making a harvest possible. He breaks up the soil, plants seeds, removes weeds, and harvests at the right time.
- God's part of the harvest is much greater than man's. He provides sunshine, rain, soil, germination, warmth, minerals, and a growing season.
- The climate of each area determines the crops that are grown.
- Man is dependent on the harvest for food.

HELPS FOR THE TEACHER

Introducing the Lesson

First of all, view the unit as a whole. You may page through the unit, noticing the headings and illustrations. Then read the unit introduction together.

For this lesson, read Leviticus 23:10–12, 22 to the class. Discuss these Old Testament harvest laws: (1) Israel was to give some of their first harvest to the Lord through the priest, and (2) those who harvested were to leave some grain for the poor and the strangers.

In a sense, we still keep these laws today. We give our first fruits to God when we love and obey Him above all others. We also give time and money to the Lord's work. (Give some examples of the Lord's work in your area.) Giving reminds us that all our harvest comes from God. In fact, everything we have comes from God.

If we live on a farm, we can invite people to glean our cornfields. If we have a garden, we can share fruits and vegetables with others. We can give to the poor. Wherever we live, we can always invite visitors to our home to share our food.