

God speaks his word to us in many ways. He equally sends his word to the faithful and the unfaithful among his people. In today's gospel, Jesus compares the word of God to a seed, a seed which can make our lives fruitful. The sower sows a seed on every kind of soil. However, if a seed is to produce a harvest it must be planted in good soil. If the soil is lacking, the seed will come to nothing; if the soil is good, it will produce a rich harvest.

God provides us everything, like seed, rain and sun, but the soil for a rich harvest. We ourselves have to provide with the good soil for the fruitful harvest. Therefore, it is very important for us to have a good soil, and to have a good soil means that we have a receptive heart for the word of God.

However, the first reading of today gives hope to those who doesn't have good soil. "From the heavens the rain and snow come down and do not return there till they have watered the earth, making it fertile and fruitful, giving seed to the one who sows" (Isa 55:10). God doesn't leave us alone. Rather, he waits with us and helps us to produce a fruitful harvest.

"My word shall not return to me void, but shall do my will, achieving the end for which I sent it." (Isa 55, 11) The earth responds to the rain and sun so that even the desert blooms. Even though the soil is not good enough, God may make it work.

We are maybe not a good soil, nevertheless we can bear fruits and yield a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold through the help of Jesus Christ. Jesus said, "Blessed are your eyes, because they see, and your ears, because they hear." We are so blessed that we can see the love of God which is sown, and is growing in our hearts.

Fr. James