

## SOWING THE SEEDS

Standing on the back porch and looking down at the yard I could see several bare spots needing grass. Even though the ground hog saw his shadow and there will be six more weeks of winter, there are many signs spring is just around the corner. The robins are starting to appear. We have seen flocks of other birds flying over: an indication the migration season has already started. In the very near future people will start their gardens and hoping for a good harvest of food items to be stored for the upcoming winter. In some parts of our great country, weather conditions are favorable for planting throughout the year. Our spiritual life is like this. We can sow year round.

When we plant our gardens, the soil is tilled to make furrows for planting the seeds. Then we water and keep the weeds out so they don't choke the plants as they grow. Planting the seed of God's word is similar in a lot of ways. Making contact with someone interested in hearing God's word is similar to "tilling the soil." Teaching them God's plan of salvation is sowing or "planting the seed." Studying with the individual provides the "watering." When we do this, God will give the increase. In our spiritual life we don't have to wait until winter is over to sow the seeds. The conditions are always there - we just have to find the opportunities to plant the seed.

We occasionally sing the song, *Are You Sowing the Seeds of the Kingdom Brother*. It's a beautiful song and asks a question we all need to consider: Are we sowing in our spiritual gardens? Consider reading Matthew the 13<sup>th</sup> chapter this week. There you will find the "Parable of the Sower." Are you spreading the seeds of God's kingdom?

For the elders,  
Don Wagner