

The Money's in the Envelope

It was almost planting season and a farmer found himself without any money to buy seed.



He had prepared his fields for planting, anticipating that the bank would lend him money for seed, as they had for several years. This year, however, the bank had changed its policy: no more seed money.

The farmer didn't know what to do, except to talk to God about the problem during his morning devotional time.

As he prayed, the idea came to him: "Perhaps the co-op will advance me the seed." He knew the co-op rule – credit the fertilizer, chemicals, and fuel, but seed had to be paid for in cash.

Even so, the farmer decided to go talk to the co-op manager. Upon arriving at the co-op office, the secretary greeted him warmly and handed him an envelope as she ushered him into the manager's office.

"What's this?" the farmer asked.

"Your payment for last year's crop," the manager replied.

"I didn't think it was due for several months," the farmer said as he opened the envelope. The manager smiled and said, "This year, we decided to do it earlier."

"Thank you!" the farmer blurted out as he saw the amount of the check -- \$10,000 *more* than he needed.

"Now what did you want to talk to me about this morning?" the manager asked.

"Not a thing," the farmer responded. But inside, he thought, "Talking to God has already taken care of it."

What about you? Do you take your personal cares and needs to your Heavenly Father? Do you know that He wants you to do that? And not only does He desire it, He encourages it.

That's the way it is with a loving Father.

Let, I pray, Your merciful kindness be for my comfort, according to Your word to Your servant. Let Your tender mercies come to me, that I may live (Psalm 119:76-77).

– Beecher Hunter