



We read in Matthew 13:26, *"So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also."*

You will likely recognize this passage as a snippet from the Parable of the Weeds. What is not mentioned in this story from Jesus is the condition of the soil. As we know, the weeds are the default setting for the soil because we grow in a fallen world.

The sources for weeds in our lives are easy to spot—our own sin and society's influence on it, as sown by the enemy. There is only one source for the seed that grows into the grain, and that is the seed Himself, Jesus, the living Word of God. Our missions are a dispenser for that Seed, for those looking to live out from the weeds. Our Mission 1-1-1 dollars continue to serve this purpose alone, in places that find it difficult to receive the Way, the Truth, and the Life, by the grace of the Word and Sacraments. As Jesus says in John 14:6, "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father, except through me."