

09/24/13 - Growing in Faith

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Luke 8:1-15

Several years ago I talked for about an hour with Mang Teddy, a farmer, in his potato field in Mount Data, Mountain Province, Philippines. The previous day there had been a severe hail storm.

He explained that there are different varieties of potatoes. The Granola variety matures quite quickly. In about six or seven weeks, as I recall, you can begin harvesting the potato. But this variety does not stand up well to storms. The hail had completely destroyed these plants.

The Mexican variety takes longer to mature, Teddy told me, but it survives better. Teddy showed me places where the hail had cut the stems, and in those places two shoots were already beginning to grow. Underneath, the potato was becoming stronger.

God does not protect us from the storms, but God can make us stronger through them. "The LORD will guide you always; he will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen your frame. You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail" (Isa. 58:11).

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