

each family unit. Also — and this is key — so would the crops they produced. In this way, laziness naturally would be penalized, and hard work rewarded.

***The change was remarkable and immediate! Whereas before the men had looked for excuses not to work and had complained when they did, they now labored willingly and eagerly.***

The change was remarkable and immediate! Whereas before the men in our company had looked for excuses not to work and had complained when they did, they now labored willingly and eagerly. More corn was planted than would have been under any other system I or anyone else could have devised. It wasn't

just the men, either! Wives and children also worked in the fields, and they apparently wanted to! Before we adopted this system, urging a woman to till the ground and plant corn was thought to be oppressive and mean.<sup>21</sup>

### **A Path to a Hopeful Future**

There's more. Thanks for your patience as I explain even further. Be assured, though, I'm almost done. In November of 1621, the ship *Fortune* arrived<sup>22</sup> with about 35 new colonists. The ship brought us mouths to feed, but no supplies; and our rations were cut in half. It wasn't that we wished hardship on anybody, but the additional needs among us made our task even more challenging.