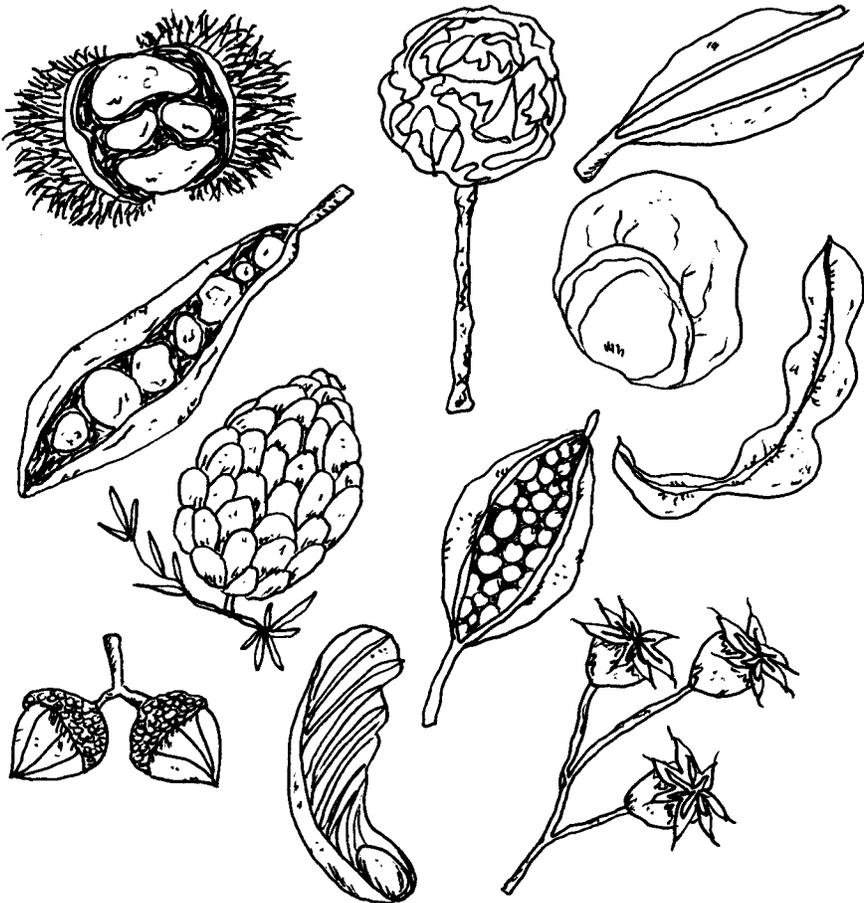


April
SPIRITUAL GARDENING
CALENDAR



Seeds



The Bible tells us that the seed is the Word of God (Luke 8:11). “Word” in the New Testament is the Greek word *logos* which is the idea of those thoughts gathered together in the mind and expressed in speech, not just the physical word itself but also the thoughts behind it. God has provided us with access to His Word in the Bible. It is these words that tell us who God is, what His character is, and what He expects from people.

By taking these words in, they are planted in the soil of our heart so that we can become like the God that we worship. This is what God says about His Word: “So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it” (Isaiah 55:11).

It is an amazing thing to think of ourselves as a place where thoughts grow to become who we are and what we do. We can grow our own thoughts, or we can grow the thoughts of God.

1. Deuteronomy 22:9
2. James 1:21-22
3. Psalm 126:5-6
4. Ecclesiastes 11:4,6
5. Isaiah 28:24-26
6. 1 Corinthians 3:6-8
7. Jeremiah 4:3-4
8. Hosea 2:23
9. Hosea 10:12-13
10. Matthew 13:19-21
11. Matthew 13:22-23
12. Leviticus 27:30
13. Deuteronomy 8:2-3
14. Psalm 78:23-25
15. Isaiah 44:3-4
16. Isaiah 55:1-2
17. Exodus 16:14-15
18. John 6:48-50
19. Zechariah 8:11-12
20. Mark 4:26-28
21. 2 Corinthians 9:6-7
22. Matthew 13:31-32
23. Acts 17:11-12
24. 1 Corinthians 15:36-38
25. John 12:24-25
26. John 6:68-69
27. John 1:1-4
28. Nehemiah 8:2-3
29. Joshua 1:7-8
30. James 3:17-18

April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	1

Send a note to someone (special anniversaries, someone I am praying for, someone I am thinking of):

the Sower

For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven,
and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh
it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower,
and bread to the eater: So shall my word be that goeth forth
out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall
accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper
in the thing whereto I sent it.

For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace:
the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into
singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

Instead of the thorn shall come up the fir tree,
and instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree:
and it shall be to the LORD for a name,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

Isaiah 55:6-13 KJV

How can I praise God as the source of the seed?
What has God planted in me that I am thankful for?
Am I listening and planting the thoughts of God in my heart?
How do I need help to allow God's word to grow in me?

Write this out as a prayer and pray it several times this month.

praise

give thanks

recognize sin

ask for help

Wednesday Isaiah 66:12

31 Daily Tasks

Thursday Deuteronomy 22:9

1 Daily Tasks

Friday James 1:21-22

2 Daily Tasks

Saturday Psalm 126:5-6

3 Daily Tasks

hear

Hebrew “shama”: to hear intelligently.

*“Hear counsel, and receive instruction,
that thou mayest be wise in thy latter end.”
(Proverbs 19:20 KJV)*

Take some time to ponder these facts and how they may relate to what can grow in our spiritual garden.



Seeds provide food for the world as cereal grains, nuts, oils, and spices.



Seeds can be dormant for a long time and still germinate when the conditions are right.



A seed is made up of a seed coat for protection, an embryo (miniature undeveloped plant), and endosperm (rich substance of starch and proteins) or special seed leaves called cotyledons.



Some seeds need dormant periods while they wait for the right conditions, others can germinate as soon as they have matured.



A seed pours all of its life into the plant.



An orchid seed pod can contain three million seeds!



Seeds are no good if they stay in the seed case. Instead they need to spread and they do so in different ways: water, wind, explosions, and animals.



A seed holds all the genetic information for a plant, but in order to fulfil that potential, it needs to be planted in the ground.



There are several hundred thousand plant species, and of that 120 are cultivated for human food. However, there are 3000 varieties of just the tomato in active cultivation and 15,000 known varieties.

meditation

A page for meditation notes. The page features a decorative border with rounded corners and a series of horizontal lines for writing. The word "meditation" is centered at the top of the page.

April

TO DO THIS WEEK:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Prayer	<input type="checkbox"/>							
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bible	<input type="checkbox"/>							
<input type="checkbox"/>	Exercise	<input type="checkbox"/>							
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>							
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>							
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>							

Sunday Ecclesiastes 11:4,6

4 Daily Tasks

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Monday Isaiah 28:24-26

5 Daily Tasks

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Tuesday 1 Corinthians 3:6-8

6 Daily Tasks

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Wednesday Jeremiah 4:3-4

7 Daily Tasks

Thursday Hosea 2:23

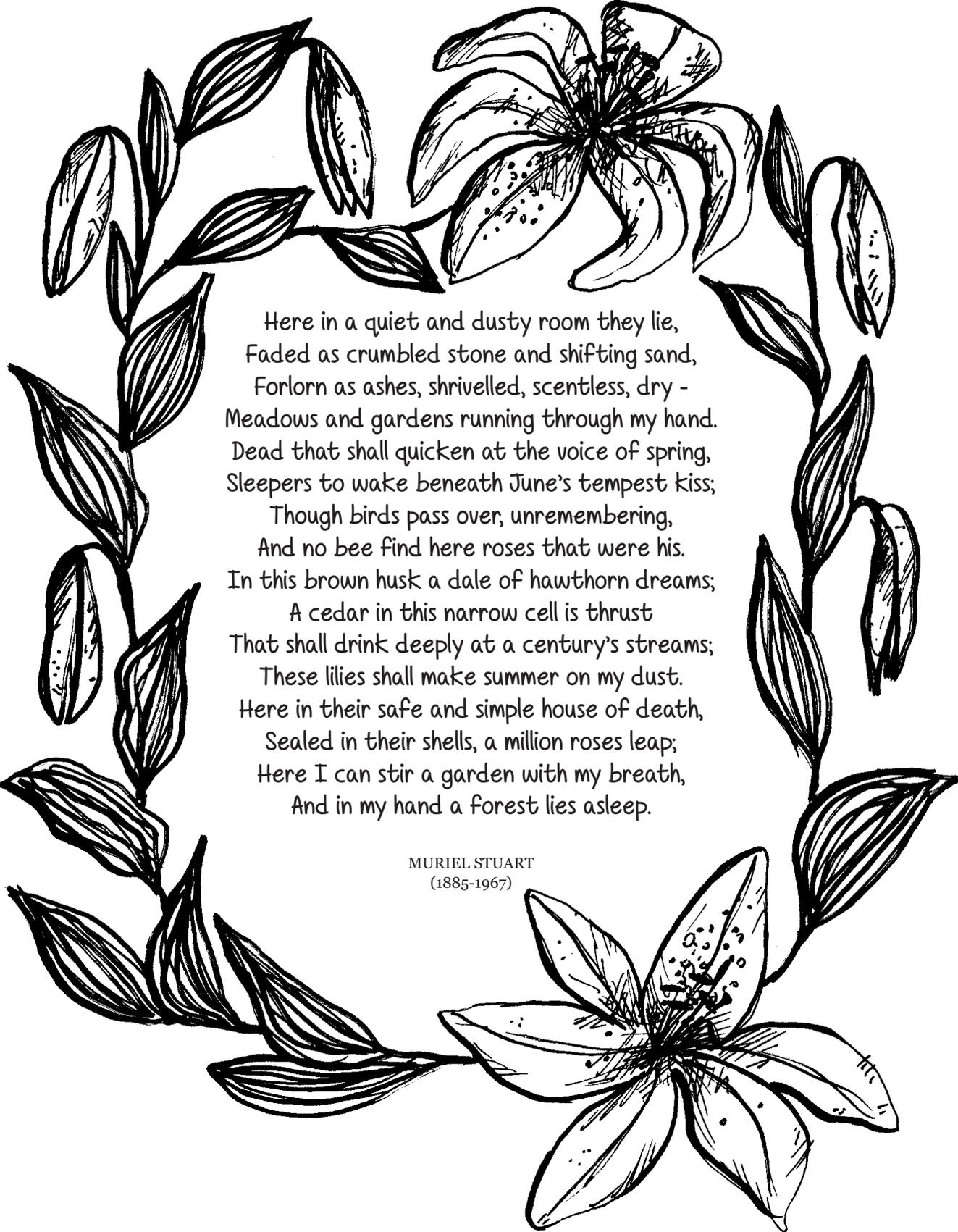
8 Daily Tasks

Friday Hosea 10:12-13

9 Daily Tasks

Saturday Matthew 13:19-21

10 Daily Tasks



Here in a quiet and dusty room they lie,
Faded as crumbled stone and shifting sand,
Forlorn as ashes, shrivelled, scentless, dry -
Meadows and gardens running through my hand.
Dead that shall quicken at the voice of spring,
Sleepers to wake beneath June's tempest kiss;
Though birds pass over, unremembering,
And no bee find here roses that were his.
In this brown husk a dale of hawthorn dreams;
A cedar in this narrow cell is thrust
That shall drink deeply at a century's streams;
These lilies shall make summer on my dust.
Here in their safe and simple house of death,
Sealed in their shells, a million roses leap;
Here I can stir a garden with my breath,
And in my hand a forest lies asleep.

MURIEL STUART
(1885-1967)

experience

When you go to plant a garden, there are so many different kinds of seeds to choose from and it is not possible to plant everything. A good gardener is focused and committed. It starts with having a vision of what you want your end harvest to be, and includes practical things such as what you like to eat, what you have room for, and what will grow in your climate. Order a seed catalogue and do some planning or dreaming.



Some seeds can be started early if you live in area with a short growing season. Check the seed packet to find out if you should start them indoors. If you are new to gardening, start with seeds that are easy to grow such as tomatoes, basil, marigolds, or zinnias.



Get an illustrated book out of your library on seeds such as: *The Book of Seeds* by Paul Smith or *Trees, Leaves, Flowers & Seeds* by Dorling Kindersly. Be amazed at the incredible variety of seeds that there are in the world.



Go for a walk and see if you can find any wild seeds left over from the fall. Can you find seeds that spread by wind? exploding? hitchhiking? animals eating them?

Sketch some of your observations below or plan out a garden.

Wednesday Psalm 78:23-25

14 Daily Tasks

Thursday Isaiah 44:3-4

15 Daily Tasks

Friday Isaiah 55:1-2

16 Daily Tasks

Saturday Exodus 16:14-15

17 Daily Tasks

Control of Thought

Every deliberate act is the outcome of deliberate thought, and it therefore follows that control of thought must lie at the foundation of all reform, and must be the mainspring of every virtue right up to that bridling of the tongue which is placed by an apostle as the surpreme test of a man.

We shall never find a better description of the process which leads to destruction than that contained in the first chapter of the Epistle of James: “Every man is tempted when he is drawn away of his own lust and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.”

It is safe to affirm that there has only been one out of all the human race who has exercised a perfect control over thought; only one to whom that passage from the Psalms is perfectly applicable— “I hate vain thoughts; but thy law do I love.” It is characteristic of humanity to love vain thoughts, and the step from vain to sinful is only a very small one, if, indeed, there is a step at all. But although we are all sinners, we are required to follow the perfect example of our Lord and Master as closely as we can, and so must endeavour to resemble him in this. In other words, we must learn to control our thoughts...

Like all reforms, the re-ordering of the brain is a lengthy process. It requires a weeding out of the unfit elements, a stricter discipline, and some times for exercise to get all the parts in efficient working order, and to train the habits in the right direction. The issue comes before us very plainly here.

Teach men that they are not responsible for their thoughts and actions, and there is no such thing as free will, that environment is everything, and that they cannot with justice be praised for well-doing, or blamed for their sins—and they will relax all effort, give free rein to habits, and sink very much into the automatic machines they believe themselves to be.

Teach them that they are responsible, that they can “refuse the evil and choose the good”, and can even exercise a control over their thoughts, and they will rise to the occasion. There will be a conscious choice, a conscious struggle against evil tendencies and evil environment, and a consequent development of personality. It is out of such a struggle that the sons of God are born.

-- from *Conviction and Conduct* by I. Collyer

What are your usual “habits” of thought?

How can we influence what we think about?

Look up the words “thoughts” and “imagination” in the Bible, and take note of how these affect our behaviour.

thoughts...

A large rectangular frame with rounded corners, containing horizontal lines for writing. The frame is defined by a thin black border. The interior of the frame is filled with 25 horizontal lines, providing a space for writing. The text "thoughts..." is centered at the top of the page, above the first line of the frame.

Wednesday 2 Corinthians 9:6-7

21 Daily Tasks

Thursday Matthew 13:31-32

22 Daily Tasks

Friday Acts 17:11-12

23 Daily Tasks

Saturday 1 Corinthians 15:36-38

24 Daily Tasks

my thoughts...

Consider how much the instruction Paul gives in Philippians 4:8 can really change your thinking. Take some of your thoughts and question them according to this verse: “Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.”

true

honest

just

pure

my thoughts...

lovely

of good report

if any virtue

if any praise

April/May

TO DO THIS WEEK:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Prayer	<input type="checkbox"/>							
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bible	<input type="checkbox"/>							
<input type="checkbox"/>	Exercise	<input type="checkbox"/>							
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>							
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>							
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Sunday John 12:24

25

Daily Tasks

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Monday John 6:68-69

26

Daily Tasks

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Tuesday John 1:1-4

27

Daily Tasks

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Wednesday Nehemiah 8:2-3

28 Daily Tasks

Thursday Joshua 1:7-8

29 Daily Tasks

Friday James 3:17-18

30 Daily Tasks

Saturday Isaiah 59:9-10

1 Daily Tasks
