

June

SPIRITUAL GARDENING CALENDAR

Germination

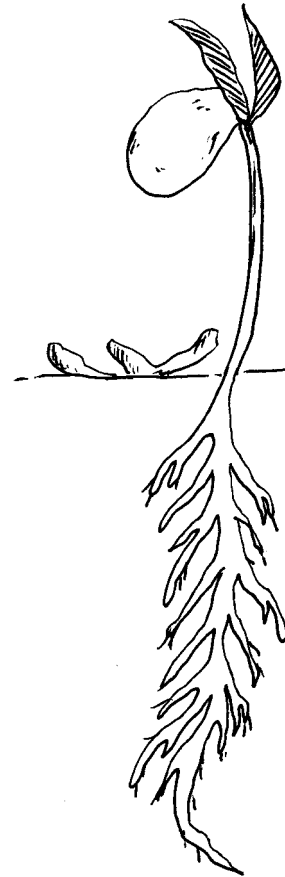
Generally, seeds need three things to germinate: water, warmth and soil to grow in. Water helps to soften the seed coat so the sprout can emerge, activate the food reserve which fuels the initial growth, and wash away any acid that helps to keep a seed dormant.

Some seeds need very particular conditions to germinate. For example, some need fire to melt the resin that seals the seed, some need drought so their seed case dries and cracks, some need a season of cold so that the freeze and thaw cycle can soften the seed case, and some need to pass through the digestion process.

One thing that all seeds do need to germinate is some degree of warmth. What came to me as I thought about how warmth is reflected in a spiritual garden was enthusiasm, desire, exertion, passion, love.

This does seem to be somewhat supported by Scripture. There has to be love for God before His character can grow in us. "And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might." (Deuteronomy 6:5). If that love grows cold, there is not much chance it will have a good effect on us. "And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved." (Matthew 24:12,13).

So, to add warmth to the soil in your heart, and allow for the germination of the seeds of the word, you need to add a little enthusiasm like David had: "My soul longeth, yea, even fainteth for the courts of the LORD: my heart and my flesh crieth out for the living God" (Psalm 84:2).



1. Psalm 119:1-3

2. Psalm 119:4-6

3. Psalm 119:7-8

4. Psalm 119:9-11

5. Psalm 119:12-14

6. Psalm 119:15-16

7. Psalm 119:17-19

8. Psalm 119:20-22

9. Psalm 119:23-24

10. Psalm 119:25-27

11. Psalm 119:28-30

12. Psalm 119:31-32

13. Psalm 119:33-35

14. Psalm 119:36-38

15. Psalm 119:39-40

16. Psalm 119:41-43

17. Psalm 119:44-46

18. Psalm 119:47-48

19. Psalm 119:49-51

20. Psalm 119:52-54

21. Psalm 119:55-56

22. Psalm 119:57-59

23. Psalm 119:60-62

24. Psalm 119:63-64

25. Psalm 119:65-67

26. Psalm 119:68-70

27. Psalm 119:71-72

28. Psalm 119:73-75

29. Psalm 119:76-78

30. Psalm 119:79-80

June

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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	2	3

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

the King

The LORD reigneth; let the people tremble:
he sitteth between the cherubims; let the earth be moved.

The LORD is great in Zion; and he is high above all the people.
Let them praise thy great and terrible name; for it is holy.

The king's strength also loveth judgment;
thou dost establish equity, thou executest judgment
and righteousness in Jacob.

Psalms 99:1-9 KJV

How can I praise God as the King?
Why am I thankful that God is the King?
How do I fail to recognize God as the King of my life?
How do I need help to be a loyal and dutiful subject?

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

praise

give thanks

recognize sin

ask for help

May/June

TO DO THIS WEEK:

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Sunday Psalm 112:1-4

30

Daily Tasks

Monday Revelation 22:5

31

Daily Tasks

Tuesday Psalm 119:1-3

1

Daily Tasks

Wednesday Psalm 119:4-6

2 Daily Tasks

Thursday Psalm 119:7-8

3 Daily Tasks

Friday Psalm 119:9-11

4 Daily Tasks

Saturday Psalm 119:12-14

5 Daily Tasks

obey

Hebrew “shama”: to hear intelligently with the implication of obedience

*Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant,
then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people:
for all the earth is mine:
(Exodus 19:5 KJV)*

**Take some time to ponder these facts
and how they may relate to obedience in our spiritual life.**



Germination requires the right conditions to begin. For most seeds this is moisture and warmth (water and light).



Germination usually begins underground in the dark where it is invisible, but it can't be buried too deep.



A seed germinates in a specific way: first it takes up water and the seed coat swells and softens. The seed then starts to take in oxygen and make proteins and use its store of food, the root makes its way down into the earth and begins to absorb water, then the sprout grows up into the light. Next the cells start to lengthen and split which sends the root out of the seed.



The root anchors the seed and allows it to start absorbing water, which then sends a shoot (the leaves and stem) up from the seed.



Some seeds have a hard or thick seed coat that needs to be broken down by soaking or scratching the surface of the seed.



Some seeds need to go through a period of cold temperatures before they will germinate.



Some plants need fire for their seeds to sprout.

Other facts:

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.

June

TO DO THIS WEEK:

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Sunday Psalm 119:15-16	6 Daily Tasks
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Monday Psalm 119:17-19	7 Daily Tasks
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Tuesday Psalm 119:20-22	8 Daily Tasks
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Wednesday Psalm 119:23-24

9

Daily Tasks

Thursday Psalm 119:25-27

10

Daily Tasks

Friday Psalm 119:28-30

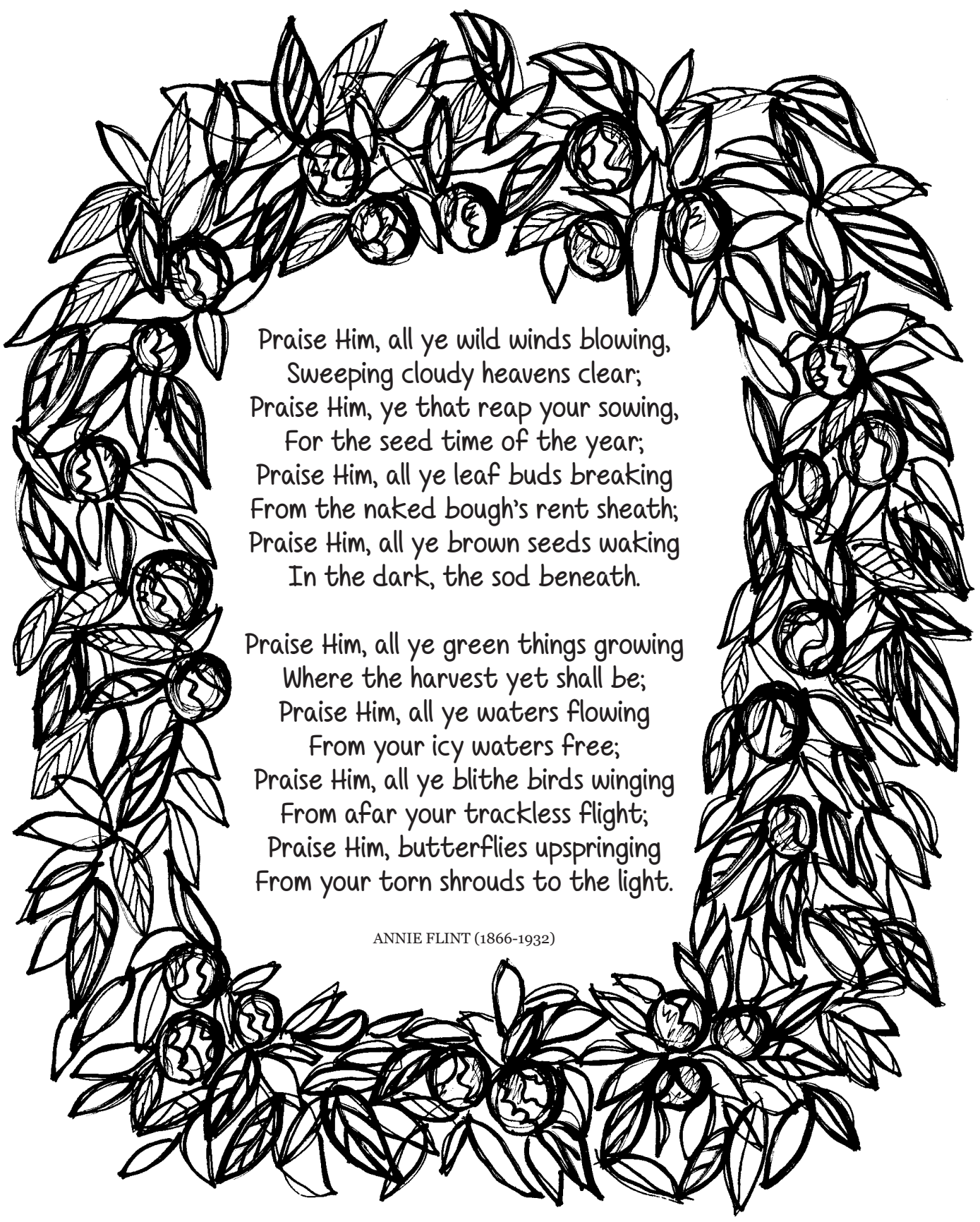
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Daily Tasks

Saturday Psalm 119:31-32

12

Daily Tasks



Praise Him, all ye wild winds blowing,
Sweeping cloudy heavens clear;
Praise Him, ye that reap your sowing,
For the seed time of the year;
Praise Him, all ye leaf buds breaking
From the naked bough's rent sheath;
Praise Him, all ye brown seeds waking
In the dark, the sod beneath.

Praise Him, all ye green things growing
Where the harvest yet shall be;
Praise Him, all ye waters flowing
From your icy waters free;
Praise Him, all ye blithe birds winging
From afar your trackless flight;
Praise Him, butterflies upspringing
From your torn shrouds to the light.

ANNIE FLINT (1866-1932)

experience

Have a close look at a seed like a bean. Soak it in water and split it in half. You should be able to see the embryo. You may also want to watch a bean sprout by putting a wet folded up paper towel and a bean seed in a small clear plastic bag. Tape it onto a sunny window and watch it grow.



Did you know you that you can eat sprouts and they are supposed to be very good for you? You can buy seeds specifically for sprouting such as alfalfa, basil, beans, broccoli, cabbage, lentils, etc. All you need is a wide-jar, a screen or netting to fit over the opening, a rubber band to hold it on, fresh water, and whatever seeds you want to sprout. Have a look at www.sprouting.com.



In 1973 several date seeds were found at an excavation at Masada. Carbon dating showed them to be about 2000 years old and of a variety that had been extinct for over 800 years. In 2005, an attempt was made to germinate them. They were soaked in hot water, then in a solution of nutrients, followed by a fertilizer made from seaweed. Then they were planted in potting soil, hooked up to drip irrigation, and left alone. Two months later one of the seeds sprouted. It was named Methuselah. Today Adam, Jonah, Uriel, Boaz, Judith, and Hannah have joined him.



Grow some seeds from your kitchen scraps. For example, save the seeds from citrus fruit or apples. Let them soak in water for several hours, and then put them in wet paper towel in a plastic bag or container. Check them often to see if they are germinating. When they do, plant them in a container of potting soil.

Sketch some of your finds below.

June

TO DO THIS WEEK:

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Sunday Psalm 119:33-35

13

Daily Tasks

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Monday Psalm 119:36-38

14

Daily Tasks

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Tuesday Psalm 119:39-40

15

Daily Tasks

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Wednesday Psalm 119:41-43

16 Daily Tasks

Thursday Psalm 119:44-46

17 Daily Tasks

Friday Psalm 119:47-48

18 Daily Tasks

Saturday Psalm 119:49-51

19 Daily Tasks

A Right Spirit

When disciples are reverent externally it ought to be because they are first reverent internally. When disciples bow their heads in visible worship, it ought to be because they have first submitted themselves to God in the quiet recesses of their lives. External worship is spiritual when it is the outcome of an internal spiritual condition, One is the outcome of the other. But we have to recognise that the process works the other way around. That is to say: sometimes the external form of worship will induce in those who participate a reverent spirit. Sometimes the very nature of the assembly will provoke in the hearts of those who have come, a worshipful attitude. How often has it happened that we have come with our spirits disturbed and our hearts wrongly impelled and we have gone away calmed and satisfied? have bowed our heads in reverent and filial fear, confessed our need and thanked God and worshipped Him in spirit and in truth? It happened because the spirit of the assembly touched us, and brought us rest and healing...

Some commentators stress that the essential meaning of the idea of worship in the Bible is that of prostration. The fundamental thought is that of bowing low and walking out backwards; a humble recognition of the absolute supremacy of God. It is doing obeisance in the presence of the throne. The idea compels men to an attitude of reverence in the realisation that God is all sufficient for the needs of man; that man, apart from God, is altogether incomplete—unfulfilled and wasted; that all man needs is to be found in the resource and bounty of the great God of heaven; that men depend upon God. Man is the subject, God is the King.

This realisation produces the attitude of worship. It is this consciousness which makes the external form of worship spiritual. In the truest sense, by this means the song becomes sacred. The prayer is, in the truest sense, the raising of the heart and mind to heaven. Because of their consciousness of worship, the worshippers can cast their burdens upon the Lord. They trust in His power to meet every need. Their attention to the word of God, because of the spirit of worship, is reverent, eager and submissive. This corporate act of reverence is a holy thing. God says He will be sanctified in them that draw nigh before Him...

But this beauty, the beauty of holiness, the expression of worship, is something which breaks through from inside. It is centred in a heart filled with reverent fear, seeking to discover the will of God and to answer it in humble joy, a life trembling at His word and responsible to His command; walking in the way of God's appointment, whatever it may be, like sheep content with the pasture which the shepherd has selected; a life of holiness unfolding the beauty which glorifies God.

—from *The Genius of Discipleship* by D. Gillett

Psalm 16 tells us how to develop the warmth and moisture that a seed needs to germinate: David sees God as his only refuge, the One who provides him with everything he needs, that gives him more than he needs, the One who gives him good counsel and wisdom, and who will in the end not leave him in the grave.

How do you see God?

how God loves me...

A large rectangular frame with rounded corners, containing horizontal lines for writing. The frame is empty, with the text 'how God loves me...' at the top center. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the frame.

Wednesday Psalm 119:60-62

23

Daily Tasks

Thursday Psalm 119:63-64

24

Daily Tasks

Friday Psalm 119:65-67

25

Daily Tasks

Saturday Psalm 119:68-70

26

Daily Tasks

music...

A sheet of white paper with a decorative border. The border consists of a thin black line with rounded corners at the top and bottom. The text "music..." is centered at the top of the page. Below the text, the page is filled with horizontal lines, creating a ruled area for writing. There are 20 lines in total, including the top line that follows the text.

June/July

TO DO THIS WEEK:

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Sunday Psalm 119:71-72

27

Daily Tasks

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Monday Psalm 119:73-75

28

Daily Tasks

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Tuesday Psalm 119:76-78

29

Daily Tasks

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Wednesday Psalm 119:79-80

30 Daily Tasks

Thursday Psalm 119:81-83

1 Daily Tasks

Friday Psalm 119:84-86

2 Daily Tasks

Saturday Psalm 119:87-88

3 Daily Tasks
