

September 2021

Weekly Planner and Meditations
on Spiritual Gardening

grow



The hardest thing about a garden is the waiting. One has to wait for the right time to plant, for the seeds to sprout, for the rain to fall, for them to grow, for them to flower, and finally for them to produce fruit, and if anything fatal happens during this process, then one has to start again.

The other hard thing about gardening is that although we can do our best to provide the best environment for our plants to thrive, we cannot make them grow—that is a process that is completely out of our hands.

Farmers have tried to accelerate growth by using chemical fertilizers, genetically modifying seeds, and using herbicides to lessen the competition for resources. What we have learned through experience, however, is that this damages soil and restricts diversity. Focusing instead on managing the soil well, practicing good crop rotation, and even just going back to smaller plots is much more environmentally friendly and successful.

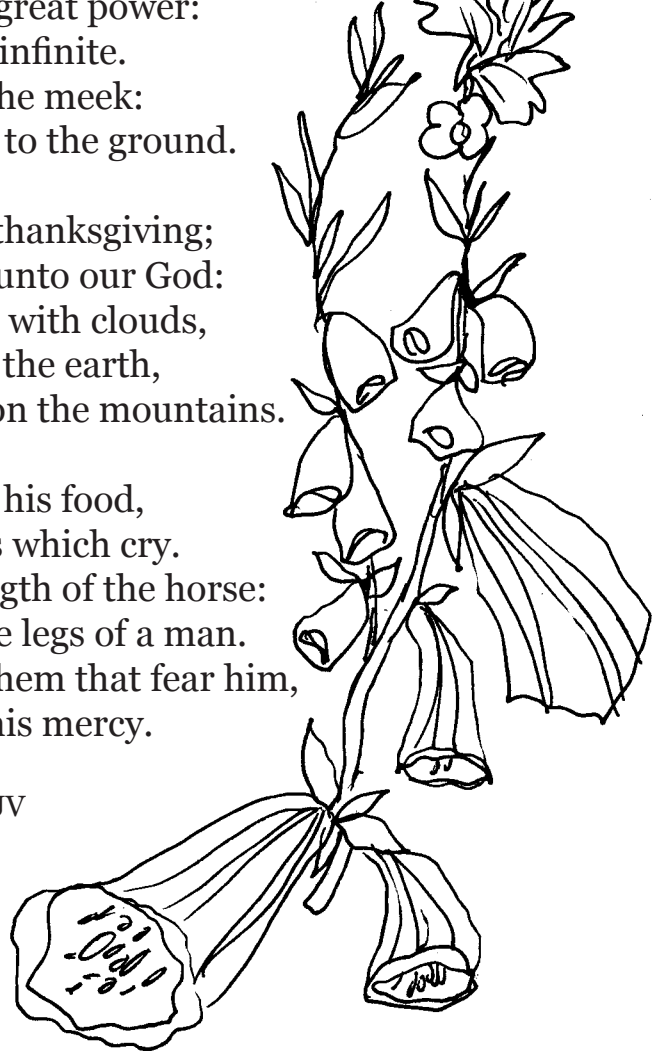
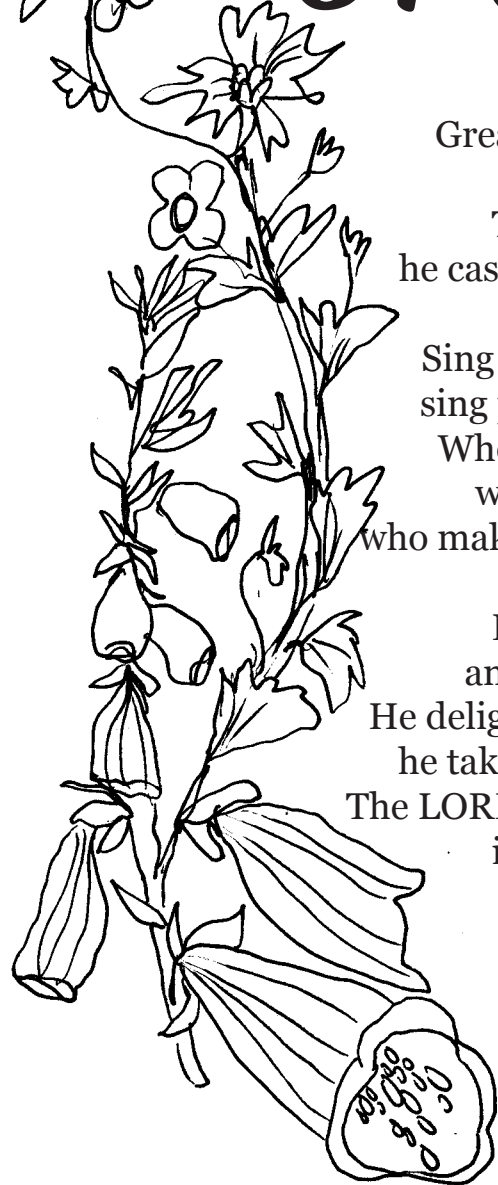
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|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1. John 15:1 | 16. Psalm 92:12-14 |
| 2. John 15:2 | 17. 1 Peter 2:1-3 |
| 3. John 15:3-4 | 18. Psalm 37:3-5 |
| 4. John 15:5 | 19. Psalm 37:6-7 |
| 5. John 15:6 | 20. Isaiah 26:8-9 |
| 6. John 15:7 | 21. Psalm 130:5-6 |
| 7. John 15:8 | 22. Galatians 5:5-6 |
| 8. John 15:9 | 23. Luke 8:15 |
| 9. John 15:10 | 24. James 5:7-8 |
| 10. John 15:11 | 25. Hebrews 10:35-36 |
| 11. John 15:12-13 | 26. Romans 5:3-5 |
| 12. John 15:14 | 27. Romans 15:4 |
| 13. John 15:15 | 28. Colossians 2:6-7 |
| 14. John 15:16 | 29. Jeremiah 17:7-8 |
| 15. John 15:17-18 | 30. Romans 8:24-25 |

Growth

September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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	2

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



Omnipotent

Great is our Lord, and of great power:
his understanding is infinite.
The LORD lifteth up the meek:
he casteth the wicked down to the ground.

Sing unto the LORD with thanksgiving;
sing praise upon the harp unto our God:
Who covereth the heaven with clouds,
who prepareth rain for the earth,
who maketh grass to grow upon the mountains.

He giveth to the beast his food,
and to the young ravens which cry.
He delighteth not in the strength of the horse:
he taketh not pleasure in the legs of a man.
The LORD taketh pleasure in them that fear him,
in those that hope in his mercy.

Psalms 147:5-15 KJV

How can I praise God for His great power?
What about His omnipotence makes me thankful?
Do I want to have all power over my life?
In what ways do I need His help to accept His omnipotence?

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

praise

give thanks

recognize sin

ask for help

August/September

TO DO THIS WEEK:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Prayer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bible	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Sunday Galatians 5:19-21

29

Daily Tasks

Monday Ephesians 4:1-3

30

Daily Tasks

Tuesday 1 John 1:9

31

Daily Tasks

Wednesday John 15:1

1

Daily Tasks

Thursday John 15:2

2

Daily Tasks

Friday John 15:3-4

3

Daily Tasks

Saturday John 15:5

4

Daily Tasks

patience

Greek "hupomone": endurance, constancy,

*Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward.
For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God,
ye might receive the promise.
(Hebrews 10:35-36 KJV)*

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



Plants grow when the cells within them grow larger and multiply.



Plants grow by cell expansion. Water and phosphorus are responsible for stretching and expanding the cell.



Plants grow by cell division. The energy for this comes from photosynthesis which takes sunlight, water, and air and converts it into sugars. Nitrogen is also an important component.



Plants also grow by cell differentiation. All cells have the potential to do everything at the beginning but become what is needed.



A plant cannot grow without regular sunlight, water, air, and nutrients.



The major nutrients a plant needs are carbon, hydrogen, oxygen, nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium.



To fertilize a plant organically, nitrogen is found in bloodmeal and helps a plant to grow on top, phosphorus is found in bonemeal and helps the roots to grow, potassium is found in potash and helps with vigour and photosynthesis.



Trying to accelerate growth by using inorganic fertilizers may work in the short term but they can pollute ground water, create compacted soil with reduced drainage and air circulation, and kill the micro-organisms that increase a plants natural defences, and damage nitrogen-fixing bacteria.

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.

Wednesday John 15:9

8 Daily Tasks

Thursday John 15:10

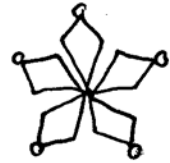
9 Daily Tasks

Friday John 15:11

10 Daily Tasks

Saturday John 15:12-13

11 Daily Tasks



The steadfast coursing of the stars,
 The waves that ripple to the shore,
 The vigorous trees which year by year
 Spread upwards more and more;
 The jewel forming in the mine,
 The snow that falls so soft and light,
 The rising and the setting sun,
 The growing glooms of night;
 All natural things both live and move
 In natural peace that is their own;
 Only in our disordered life
 Almost is she unknown.



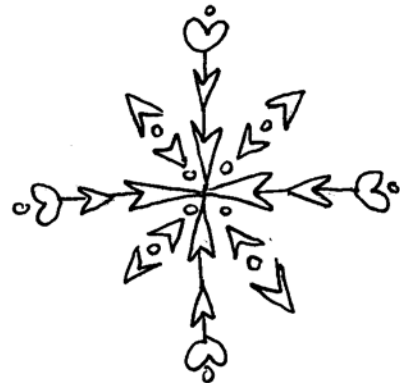
She is not rest, nor sleep, nor death;
 Order and motion ever stand
 To carry out her firm behests
 As guards at her right hand.



And something of her living force
 Fashions the lips when Christians say
 To Him Whose strength sustains the world,
 "Give us Thy Peace, we pray!"



BESSIE RAYNER PARKES
 (1829-1925)



experience

To carry out this experiment, you will need five small plants in pots. Since beans germinate quite quickly and easily, and often you might have a bag of dried beans in your cupboard, you could plant five bean seeds in paper cups. Write on them Control, Water, Sunlight, Temperature, and Effort. Put them all in a sunny windowsill or outside and keep them watered and wait for them to sprout. When they have their real leaves, you can start the experiment.



CONTROL: This plant should stay in a warm place in the sunlight and be watered regularly.

WATER: This plant should stay in a warm place in the sunlight, but do not water it.

SUNLIGHT: This plant should stay in a warm place and be watered regularly, but not have sunlight available to it. Either cover it with a paper bag or box, or put it in a dark cupboard.

TEMPERATURE: This plant may be tricky if it is still warm outside, as it needs to be in the cold, but still receive sunlight and water. However, you might have to put it in the fridge.

EFFORT: This plant should stay in a warm place in the sunlight and be watered regularly, but you are also going to try to make it grow faster and better than the others... Have fun with that!



Sketch some of your observations below.

Wednesday John 15:17-18

15

Daily Tasks

Thursday Psalm 92:12-14

16

Daily Tasks

Friday 1 Peter 2:1-3

17

Daily Tasks

Saturday Psalm 37:3-5

18

Daily Tasks

The Renewing of the Mind

When the spirit gets pessimistic the best place for revival is in the optimism of the faithful Word of God. When the chariot wheels seem to flounder in the forward flight, there is release in the promise and provision of the perfect victor. No man can be sure of Christ until he is sure of Christ's word. He does not have to ascend into heaven nor descend into the deep to find it. It is there on the parchment of the book. Not written on tables of stone but written by the perpetual inspiration of the Holy Spirit in a form which ordinary men can handle and use, day in and day out, for their soul's sake. It is our consciousness which controls our conduct and our conduct fashions our character. The daily influence of the Word of God changes our consciousness and if the process is not impeded the right consequences will follow. In the word of Paul, there is a transformation by the renewing of the mind.

Jesus said it was possible for a man's mind to make him a sinner and just as truly possible for a man's mind to make him a saint, if the will is energised. The Hebrew man told it in chapter 9:14: 'How much more shall the blood of Christ... cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?' The word conscience in this verse means the whole content of the mind—rightly our consciousness. Through the poverty of Christ many have been made rich, but the treasure does not fall from heaven in a golden casket, labelled and delivered to the front door. Like all good treasure it has to be sought with care and diligence. Remember Hebrews 11:6 'He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.' Disciples seek God in different ways but one certain way is by a regular persistent attachment to His holy Word. Pondered, rightly divided, revered and obeyed: this is treasure.

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

Growth is a very slow process in most cases. It is not something that we can really watch happening without speeding up time (for example with a time-lapse camera) although we can recognize that it has happened. We also cannot make plants grow, other than providing what they need for it to happen.

Our spiritual life is like this also. We may not feel we are growing, but we can usually look back and see that we have. God provides the seed, but we have to plant it, and water it, and then God will give the increase (1 Corinthians 3:6).

How might you make sure the seed planted in you is getting enough water, sunlight, nutrients, space, and warmth so that it can grow?

growing...

Provide water:

Provide sunlight:

Provide nutrients:

Provide space:

Provide warmth:

Be patient.

Wednesday Galatians 5:5-6

22

Daily Tasks

Thursday Luke 8:15

23

Daily Tasks

Friday James 5:7-8

24

Daily Tasks

Saturday Hebrews 10:35-36

25

Daily Tasks
