
INSPIRATIONS

Flourishing in Any Season

During my quiet time with the Lord this morning, I pondered what inspires me. I actually got excited thinking about the answer, because what inspires me is growth, not just for me, but also for others! Growth encourages and energizes me, so I'm thankful Abba reminded me that every season has a purpose.

However, what came into sharp focus when I began preparing this Newsletter is growth requires transformation! Maybe that's why I enjoy nature so much. The growth and the transformation that takes place as the seasons change are so intriguing to me! One reason is because that change is a process. It doesn't happen overnight! Moreover, in portions of Spring and Fall, the temperatures are absolutely delightful, yet Summer and Winter can bring extreme hot and extreme cold.

But, through it all, everything is working together for good in preparation for the next season. Even when things look dead from the outside, it's for a reason; it's a season of rest as the earth prepares to bring forth new life in the coming Spring. And if a plant is in the right location and has enough water, despite the extreme heat of Summer, this season brings more direct sunlight that can actually cause plants to grow more!¹

As I contemplate truth from Scripture in light of these truths from nature, I was reminded of the parable of the sower and the seed. My prayer is the simple truths nature taught me today will encourage, uplift, and inspire each of us no matter what season we are in.

If it's a winter season where everything seems dark and dreary, I pray we will take that as a season to rest, so we can allow Holy Spirit to accomplish in our heart and in our life what only He can. I pray we will use these seasons as a time to reflect on the seed that has been sown, so when God brings the harvest, we will recognize it! After all, when we plant tomatoes, we expect tomatoes!



¹ The Regents of the University of California. "Why do plants grow more in the summer than winter?" 9 Oct 2013, <http://scienceline.ucsb.edu/getkey.php?key=4197>.

Likewise, when we plant the seeds of God's Word in our heart, He tells us what we can expect! Therefore, I pray we will actively expect a harvest that looks like God said it would! Then, when Spring comes, we will not only be able to enjoy our harvest, but we will also have something to share with others. And if for some reason our Spring is delayed, I pray we will not lose heart, but continue to place our hope, our belief, our trust in God and His eternal plan for our lives.

If it's a Summer season, I pray we will spend extra time in prayer watering the seeds in our heart, for it is in these intimate times of prayer that we truly experience the direct light of the Son of God that can cause our seed to grow even more! It's also in these times of prayer that we ensure the seed in our heart gets the right amount of water to nourish it, so the soil of our heart does not become dry and brittle and become hardened towards the ways of God!

And, when everything seems like it's falling apart, I pray the beauty of Fall will help us know that, in this season, like the trees release their leaves, there are things we need to release unto the Lord in preparation for the next season of transformation that will help us look more and more like His Son! I pray we will also be able to embrace the knowledge that just like the seasons begin over again for the earth, so too they begin over again for us. Therefore, I pray, no matter the season we are in, our heart will stay focused on the Lord, so we can embrace the process of transformation He desires as we wait on the harvest that will sustain us and edify others.

Father, as I close, I pray over all those times when the season we are in feels too dark, hurts too much, and feels too lonely for us to handle. In those times, I pray You will pour out an extra measure of Your love and Your grace upon our lives, so we will be able to rest in the knowledge, that even when things are dark, You are at work for our eternal good. Help us, O Lord, to always have our eyes focused on You and the finished work of the Cross, so we will never forget the price You paid for us to have this relationship with You where You pour out Your love upon us! I pray we will be able to receive that love and to trust You in and through all things! We praise You. We thank You. We love You, O Lord. In the seasons that feel good and in the seasons that don't, help us Lord to keep the soil of our heart pliable to Your will and Your ways. This I pray in Jesus' name. Amen. And for every soul that receives this prayer, I pray You will give them revelation that will lead to application as they await the next harvest You are already preparing for them. Amen!

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