

# CHRISTIAN LIFE NOTES

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I just looked at my email and found an ad for a spring seed catalog! It is only January and seed companies want you to think spring. Well, thinking spring often gets our blood moving and our thoughts of the beauty our Lord brings forth.

Isaiah 61:11 gives us a glimpse of this and what should happen as a result:

*“For as the earth brings forth its sprouts, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and*

*praise to sprout up before all the nations.”*

Often, we take the credit for the beauty. After all, WE did all the work, but the beauty and the results lay in the hands of God. His love for us has given us the energy, the soil, the rain, and harvest. Sometimes we forget just who is in charge. This parallels how we help others grow in spirit and faith. Our faith, a gift of God, is precious and wonderful. Through study of His word and prayer we grow more confident in God’s all loving care. No matter what may transpire in our lives God is with us. Prayer allows us to talk to God. We can pray for each other and those in need.

Paul writes in Colossians 1:9–14 *“And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy; giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.”*

Paul cared about the people he shared Jesus with and what their future held. We too should be concerned with family and friends around us. Through the Holy Spirit, we may encourage others with words and deeds which may bring others to find the joy of the hope

we know in the risen Savior.

Isaiah 55:10-13: *“For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it. For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall make a name for the Lord, an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.”*



Yes, Spring Seed catalogs help us get excited for the things to come. We too should be excited every day, to see how the Lord

will open possibilities for us. May He who brings flowers in the spring, food to our table and fellowship in the Lord reign in our hearts.

The Christian Life Committee