

May/June, 2009

Planting for Good Harvest: How's My Soul Garden?

The spring season is a time when thoughts of planting come to many professional and amateur farmers or gardeners alike. Good gardeners actually start thinking of the planting season by choosing and saving the best and most eligible seeds during the time of harvest.

The ideal time to think of planting is when the harvest is robust. In like manner, the best time to pray is when things are going well. Yes, I pray for a better time when things are not going well but it is much, much easier to build a storehouse of positive prayer in good times that will yield good and robust harvest in due time. We pray without ceasing, at all seasons and without reason. Make it easy on yourself and build a storehouse of prayer to draw from during soul's arid times. Prayer is the language of the soul, a culture to be cultivated, watered and nurtured. There is so much misunderstanding about prayer as it has often been relegated to a practice primarily for a season of want and lack; and sadly reduced to a chore and a duty. A good farmer/gardener plants from a love of the soil, the blossom and the anticipation of harvest time.

It is also sad that the idea of sowing the seed of prosperity in our soul-culture through the practice of tithing has sometimes been hijacked by individuals and organizations that tend to relegate it to a way of getting. This is a sad misuse of a powerful tool for building a soul-garden of abundance. Properly understood and utilized tithing proves to be quite powerful and efficacious beyond words! One then begins to comprehend, even in small measure, what gave Charles Fillmore, cofounder of Unity, the audacity to write during the great depression:

The spiritual substance from which comes all visible wealth is never depleted. It is right with you all the time and responds to your faith in it and your demands on it. It is not affected by our ignorant talk of hard times, though we are affected because our thoughts and words govern our demonstration.

... Pour your living words of faith into the omnipresent substance, and you will be prospered though all the banks in the world close their doors. Turn the great energy of your thinking toward "plenty" ideas, and you will have plenty regardless of what men about you are saying or doing."- (from "Prosperity", by Charles Fillmore)

This way of thinking and being comes from the cultivation of a garden of the soul through practice! Both prosperity and lack are soul-cultures cultivated through habit and thinking. Here is a fragment of a poem I learned in childhood that I believe catches the essence (hope someone remembers the exact poem, and sends it to me). This fragment however gets the point across.

**Within my soul, a garden fair
A garden of my soul various
And choicest flowers,
I planted there
Whose perfume is sweet,
my soul's delight!**

The question is then, what is the state of my soul's garden?

Given how much hard work in community-building has gone on at Unity South Church in recent months, it is fair to say that the soul-garden of our community is getting healthier every day. We do indeed expect robust and healthy blossoms! However, this is not the time to rest on our laurels. It is again, indeed a planting time; it always is!

Considering that many in our community, our nation and the world have been going through tough economic times, it is good that we are starting to see glimmers of hope. The signs are pointing us toward a new and good harvest. And just as Elijah the prophet of old, trusted God and through his intuition predicted rain from a small puff of cloud, in the midst of severe draught, so are we assured by faith that our good is around the corner.

Much love and Blessings!
Reverend Festus

P.S. / Please, join us at every opportunity for
classes that explore Truth principles that grow the soul.

Come Grow with US!