

tion and gaining job skills through gardening. Rebecca says, “Having a lively green space in an urban area . . . creates a way for kids to be outside doing something productive and beautiful.”

Jesus told a story about the scattering of seed that had the potential of producing “a hundred times more than was sown” (Luke 8:8). That seed was God’s good news planted on “good soil,” which He explained is “honest, good-hearted people who hear God’s word, cling to it, and patiently produce a huge harvest” (v. 15 nlt).

The only way we can be fruitful, Jesus said, is to stay connected to Him (John 15:4). As we’re taught by Christ and cling to Him, the Spirit produces in us His fruit of “love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control” (Galatians 5:22-23). He uses the fruit He produces in us to touch the lives of others, who are then changed and grow fruit from their own lives. This makes for a beautiful life. AC

REFLECT & PRAY

I want a beautiful life, Father. Please produce Your fruit in me that I might live a life that points others to You.

How are you staying connected to Jesus? What fruit do you want Him to produce in you?



SCRIPTURE INSIGHT

When Christ’s disciples asked Him to interpret the story of the sower (Luke 8:9-10), He first quoted from the prophet Isaiah to explain why He spoke to the crowds in parables (Isaiah 6:1-10). As in the days of Isaiah, Israel still wasn’t ready to recognize the kind of good news they needed. While looking for political relief and material prosperity, they couldn’t imagine a rescue and kingdom found in the mercy and love of a rejected Messiah—and in a harvest of peace, joy, and goodwill that would grow in and by His Spirit. Mart DeHaan

Central Mountains Baptist Church

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Beautiful Fruit

The seed is the word of God. Luke 8:11

“Kids should be able to throw a seed anywhere they want [in the garden] and see what pops up,” suggests Rebecca, founder of ‘City Blossoms’. While this is not a model for careful gardening, it reflects the reality that each seed has the potential to burst forth with life. Since 2004, City Blossoms has created gardens for schools and communities in low-income areas. The kids are learning about nutri-





Our Home

Children and Covid Craziess II

We can suggest 5 crucial responses during the time of Covid testing. Today the last two

1. Trust in God
2. Trusting the Word,
3. Wisdom in considering options, [last time]
4. The _____ of the Spirit in our

Galatians 5:16-17, 22-23, Ephesians 5:15-18

John 15:4 Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.

Mark 4:40 But He said to them, "Why are you so fearful? How is it that you have no faith?"

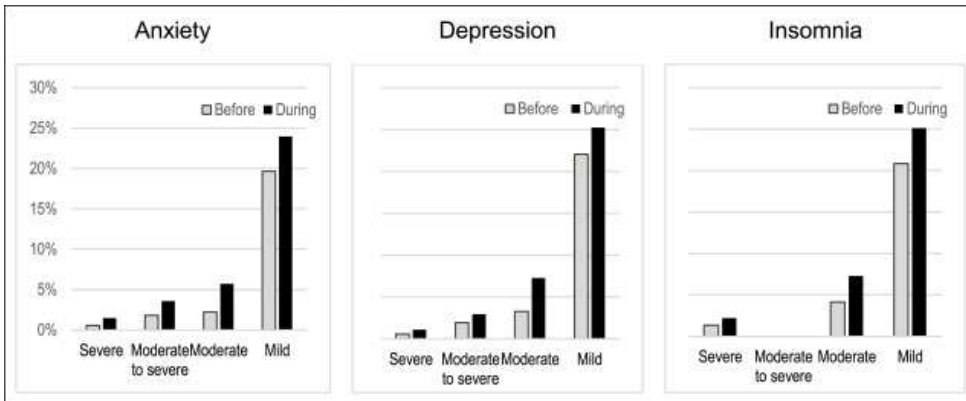
Numbers 20:12 ..Because you did not believe Me, .. therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land which I have given them. "

Hebrews 12:3 For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls.

Hebrews 1:9 You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness; ... "

Deuteronomy 28:28 The Lord will strike you with madness and blindness and confusion of heart.

Romans 1:21-22 because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. 22 Professing to be wise, they became fools,



5. _____ and _____ in our actions,

1 Corinthians 13:4-8

2 Timothy 3:1-4 But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: 2 For men will be lovers of themselves, ..unthankful, unholy, 3 unloving, .. 4 ... lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God,

Matthew 5:16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Romans 13:11-14 And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed. 12 The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. 13 Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. 14 But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.

Deuteronomy 6:4-9 "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one! 5 You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. 6 "And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. 7 You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up.

8 You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. 9 You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

