

# Thought for the Day

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2020

I have been thinking that one of the positive outcomes of this 'Lockdown' might well be some beautiful gardens come the summer. Suddenly lots of people have more time to spend tending their garden, the results of that hard work will become gloriously obvious as the summer progresses. Of course we all know what happens when gardens don't get tended. Without tender loving care nature quickly takes over.

Reading a book by A W Tozer recently I found this: "Every farmer knows the hunger of the wilderness. Let him neglect for a while his prized and valued acres and they will revert again to the wild. What is for the farmer an observation, for the Christian is a parable. What is true of the field is also true of the soul."

Every parable has its limits in application, but the picture of our spiritual lives as gardens which need tending is a helpful one. We have to 'weed' our spiritual lives, dealing with the faults and failings, rooting out the bad stuff. We have to 'nurture' them, providing goodness to help growth. The silver lining to these dark times is that we all have the time to tend more carefully to our spiritual health and well being. Although, as the usual means of worship and fellowship have been suspended, we have to do more for ourselves and perhaps be more disciplined.

Christchurch is providing as much help as is possible, given the circumstances. There are 'Thought for the Day' and sermons online. But do take time to read the Bible, perhaps a bit more than usual. "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly" Col 3:16. Maybe set yourself a target of reading two or three chapters a day or a gospel every week. There is more time to read a Christian book. Use Jeanette's weekly list of worship songs. But take time also to reflect on where the 'weeds' are, perhaps by using Psalm 139 - "Search me, O God, and know my heart".

These are tough times for everyone. So my encouragement to you today is to use this time to "...grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." 2 Peter 3:18

If we all carefully tend our spiritual health as well as our gardens it will be a bloomin' wonderful summer.

*Remember, you can send your prayer request to: [Prayer@baystonhillchurch.org](mailto:Prayer@baystonhillchurch.org)  
Or ring: (01743) 583215*

And you can read these **Thought for the Day** articles on our website too at [www.baystonhillchurch.org](http://www.baystonhillchurch.org)

*John Langridge*