



Schedule of Services

Sunday

Bible Study 9:30 AM

Worship 10:30 AM

Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday

Bible Study 1:30 PM

7:00 PM

www.collinsvillecoc.org

For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth... in every place. (1 Thessalonians 1:8)

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Lessons from a Flower

Flowers... they are beautiful and fragrant. Flowers are given as a token of love by couples, they are given as gestures of consolation at funerals, and are used as items to cheer those who are sick.

Flowers do not last very long, but they provide so much joy, comfort, and love.

Christians should be like flowers. Although our lives are not very long, we should be able to provide love, joy, and comfort to those in which we come in contact. What lessons can we learn from a flower?

1. One does not have to live long, to positively affect another's life. Jesus was involved in His personal ministry for 3 to 3½ years and changed the course of history. As Christians we do have the opportunity to change the course of someone's life for eternity. This is the reason we must take advantage of every opportunity that we have to help people come to Christ. Flowers do not live very long, but they have a lasting influence.

2. Flowers bring fragrance and beauty to just about any environment and people are so happy to receive them. As God's people, we should be able to spread the fragrance of the gospel through our lives and teaching. *"For we are unto God a sweet smelling savour of Christ in them that are saved, and in them that perish: to the one we are the savour of death unto death; and to the other the savour of life unto life. And who is sufficient for these things (2 Cor. 2:15,16)?* The apostles through their preaching were giving off the beautiful scent of the gospel.

3. Flowers need water in order to be beautiful. Christians need to receive nourishment in order to be beautiful. For the Christian, that nourishment comes from the word of God. The word gives us life and provides the nourishment we need to be beautiful flowers.

As children of God, let us use the beauty and fragrance of Christianity to be like sweet, smelling flowers.

-K.A. Pugh

The high school I graduated from was so small we did not have three or four levels of teams in football. As a freshman, one of my buddies talked me into going out for the varsity team, the only team! What they needed was a warm body for scrimmage. A couple of others joined the team after school started. We had two "B" games scheduled where the scrubs got to play. At the first one, the coach accidentally overlooked me. I was heartbroken and told my mother that Saturday afternoon that I was going to quit. She did not want me to play. She wouldn't sign the papers when I wanted to join the team. Dad had to. But she would not let me quit. That was a valuable lesson for me. Life is not easy, but you cannot quit. You have to overcome the obstacles and become a winner.

So it is with Christianity. Living the Christian life is not easy. There are hardships. There are temptations. There are trials. But you cannot quit. You must keep running the Christian race. You must keep fighting the Christian fight. You must keep the faith. You are on the winning side. Do not give in to Satan and the world.

Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. 1 Tim 6:12 ESV

Your heavenly Father wants you to be a winner. He guarantees that you will be as long as you remain faithful to Him.

TLM

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