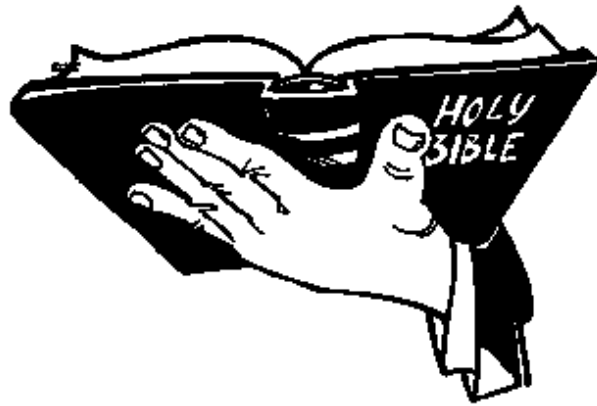


**THE SPIRITUAL CONNECTIONS**  
**MONTHLY JOURNAL FOR MAY 2003**



**DEDICATED TO ENRICHING YOUR**  
**MIND SPIRITUALLY THROUGH GOD'S**  
**INSPIRED WORDS OF THE HOLY BIBLE**

**2 TIMOTHY 3: 16-17** The whole Bible was given to us by inspiration from God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives; it straightens us out and helps us do what is right. It is God's way of making us well prepared at every point, fully equipped to do good to everyone.

---

# THE SPIRITUAL CONNECTION JOURNAL

W/ Dennis Palma

May 2003

---

## Flowers and Weeds

As we begin our new life in Christ, we are constantly confronted with our old nature and that would be equivalent to a weed.

The reason why it would be equivalent to a weed, is that weeds are so hard to control. Take for instance, remember when you first put in your spring flowers, everything in your garden looks so clean and fresh.

You become so proud and confident of your new garden that if you could paint, it would make for a perfect landscape painting to be hung in your living room wall. The problem with beautiful gardens, is that they need ongoing maintenance to flourish and grow. If left unattended for any length of time, weeds start to grow and can overrun your entire garden. What was once a picture of beauty, can become an ugly site to see. Always remember that flowers need constant water, weeding, and feeding in order to flourish. On the other hand, weeds can thrive in just about any condition without scheduled watering or feeding. The weather condition does not seem to affect weeds like it does flowers.

It could be over 100 degrees, and the weeds keep growing, and growing. A weed does the same damage to your garden, as the devil can due to your soul. When you are first born again in the Spirit of the Lord, it is the same as the first time when you planted flowers in your garden. You will begin to have a renewed sense of freshness and beauty about yourself. A feeling that you have never felt before.

The problem is that, unless we keep a daily check on our new found spiritual nature, our old weeded nature will start to overrun our new spiritual nature. The devils weeds can grow so fast. It is almost as if we need to pull the weed as soon as it pops it's ugly head out of the ground. The Lord says through Paul in Romans 7:21-23 It seems to be a fact of life that when I want to do right, I inevitably do what is wrong. I love to do God's will so far as my new nature is concerned; but there is something else deep within me, in my lower nature, that is at war with my mind and wins the fight and makes me a slave to the sin that is still

within me. In my mind I want to be God's willing servant but instead I find myself still enslaved to sin.

What the Lord is saying through the apostle Paul is that without total conviction and dedication to the Lords will, sin will be just like those weeds in your garden, they will flourish ! And now Our Lord the gardener takes control in Romans 6: 17-18 Thank God that though you once chose to be slaves of sin, now you have obeyed with all your heart the teaching to which God has committed you. And now you are free from your old master, sin; and you have become slaves to your new master , righteousness.

Let us pray: Search me, O God, and know my heart today;  
Try me, O Savior, know my thoughts I pray.  
See if there be some wicked way in me;  
Cleanse me from every sin and set me free. –Orr

So my dear friends in Christ, always try to remember the moral of this story, just like your beautiful fresh planted garden needs constant care, so does your soul. Never think that you can get too comfortable when it comes to the devil. Always try and remember that he is that ugly weed just waiting for the right opportunity to destroy your beautiful garden!

---

---

Spiritual Cliché' for the month of May

Proverbs 12:9 It is better to get your hands dirty—and eat, then to be too proud to work—and starve.

---

Special prayer intentions for the sick

Anne Palma                  Debbie Danino                  Earnestine Butler

---

Special prayer intentions for the deceased

\_Sal Zerbo                  Mercus Pierontozzi

---

---



May edition of hope for living

### God's Perfect Plan

**The Bible reveals that God has a plan for every life, and that if we live in constant fellowship with Him, He will direct and lead us in the fulfillment of this plan.**

**God does not reveal His plan through fortune tellers, astrologers, soothsayers, and workers of hocuspocus. His perfect will is reserved for those who have trusted Christ for salvation. He shares His secrets only with those who are redeemed and transformed, and who humbly seek His will for their lives.**

**You cannot know the will of God for your life unless you first come to the Cross and confess that you are a sinner and receive Christ as Lord and Savior. Once you do come to Him, you begin a whole new life—life not lived for yourself but for Christ. From that moment on, God wants to show you His will. Whatever decisions you face today, commit them to God and ask Him to guide you—and He will.....Billy Graham**

---

**MINISTRY or PRAYER LINE NO.**

**609 704-8547**

FAX 609 704-9408 E-MAIL  
ministry8246@netscape.net