

God Works Through People!

“How does God work in our world?” The answer is simple: through the people that love and follow him. In Isaiah 61:3, these people are called „oaks of righteousness”, strong, tall and productive trees who are a “planting of the Lord for the display of his splendour”. And God’s splendour is everything good that has been created, love, joy, provision, and truth.

God wants these trees to be strong and tall, producing the right kind of fruit. These people are outward looking, morally and spiritually strong and bring fruit to others. But we can also be a bad tree. We can produce no fruit, we could be morally weak and selfish. Often we are a mixture of both!

In the middle of Psalm 1, it says that people planted by the river of God’s spirit are “like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither—whatever they do prospers.” This verse tells us how people can grow into the mighty trees by honouring God and ultimately displaying his splendour to the community around them. The key is to be planted next to the Spirit of God. This soil is good as it is teeming with the life the water of God’s presence and Spirit brings.

We can draw near to God by spending time with the Bible, his word, and praying. By spending time with other people on the same journey and being involved in our community together. If you put all of these actions together, we fulfil the verse, we become people who prosper, people who yield fruit in season and people who ultimately display the splendour of God to people.

Following Jesus can be seen as a selfish because of how a person may enrich themselves. But nothing could be further from the truth. A tree ultimately wants to reach for the sky, closer to the God that created it. We too are like these trees, and as we reach for the creator he transforms us closer to his own image and desires. This is his splendour. When the love of God reaches out and transforms peoples lives, spiritually, morally and practically. Then we see the glory of God in our community through the people that live there.

Put it into Action!

Create a Life Group in your village! Gather a few friends from different parts of the community and simply pray together, study the Bible together and ask God to show you what he wants for your community.

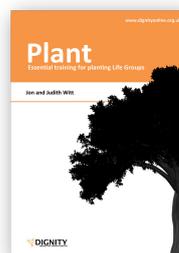
Pray that:

- 1) God’s love can transform and enrich lives within your community.
- 2) God will show you how you can be stronger in faith.
- 3) Those around you will feel planted in the Spirit of God



“People who do not attend church are showing up at Life Groups and coming to know Jesus there. They are asking for prayers for their relatives who do not know Jesus!”

- Frenk, Simambwe, Tanzania



This lesson is taken from “Water, Trees and Sky” a lesson found in Plant
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