



GROWING CONDITIONS: OPEN TO WHAT HE KNOWS WE NEED

Quiet Reflection and Journaling ☞ May 10, 2025

During this time of quiet reflection, we're asking two basic questions: What do I want to ask of the Lord, and what does He want to say to me at this time? We then wait, listening for His response. ☞ Let these questions guide your reflections and help you identify the things you want to process with the Lord. Take time to quiet your mind. Ask the Lord to help you hear what He is saying, and to give you freedom to pour out whatever is on your heart. ☞ The value of this journaling time is that we can open the door to these subtopics, and along the way, highlight what we want to revisit in the days to come. These questions are drawn from our topic and the scriptures included on this page.

1. How do you sense that the Lord is calling you to "bloom where you are planted?"

2. As you think of Jesus being tempted in the wilderness by Satan, is the Spirit showing you, a) areas of Provision, Protection, and Position, b) areas that are difficult to trust into the Father's hands, and c) areas where you don't see much of the fruits of the Spirit in your life?

3. Name fully and honestly the fear, anxiety, sense of His absence, negative self-perspective ... whatever mountain top or valley in your life where He softly speaks to you.
 - a) Offer it to Him as you stand at His immeasurable river of love.

 - b) See or feel Him take it, immerse it, and gently bathe it in the strong, flowing waters; always fresh, renewing, current with your needs.

 - c) Hear what the Lord says to you as He does this.

 - d) What does your loving Father, through Christ and the Spirit, desire to do in and through you?

4. Today God undoubtedly wants to speak to you. You can ask Him about something that is troubling you or give Him full permission to say whatever He wants to say. *"Call to Me and I will answer you and show you great and mighty things which you do not know."* Jer. 33:3 The important thing is that you expect Him to speak to you today.

5. Simply put, the soil of our hearts is very different than the soil of Mary's heart. Ask God how your soil needs to be changed so you are able to say 'yes' to what He is asking.

6. Are there places that you feel stuck in your walk with Jesus, inhibiting your growth in Him?
 - a) Do you think you have any self-pity in your life?

 - b) Is there any unforgiveness/bitterness in your life?

 - c) Do you have any sense of entitlement? (I deserve this, and others have so much more than I do)

 - d) Embellishment? (Making more of your problems and obstacles in life than they really are.)

7. Ask God if fear is preventing you from facing something painful in your life?

8. Do I have a vision that the Lord will make something beautiful out of my brokenness and suffering?

What do I need to remember about the Goodness of the Lord?

Galatians 5:16, 22-25

¹⁶ So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness ²³ gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. ²⁴ Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵ Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

Isaiah 50:4-5

⁴ The Sovereign Lord has given me a well-instructed tongue, to know the word that sustains the weary. He wakens me morning by morning, wakens my ear to listen like one being instructed. ⁵ The Sovereign Lord has opened my ears; I have not been rebellious, I have not turned away.