



THE GARDEN POST

DOING LIFE TOGETHER

Vol.1, No.15 August 2024



SERVING
Others is the ultimate act of serving God.

SOW
Into the kingdom of God by sowing into others.

SPROUT
In faith, mercy, and grace.

SUNDAY'S THOUGHT

Job's life is a testimony to the reality of suffering and the journey of faith through trials. Through it all, Job maintained his integrity. His journey was a testament to his faith and trust in God, even in the face of adversity.

Job's suffering brought him to a place where he could truly "taste and see" God's goodness, not just in the blessings of life, but in the very nature of God Himself. Through his trials, Job learned that God's goodness is constant, even when life is not. He discovered that taking refuge in God means trusting Him completely, even when we don't have all the answers.

Job's faith was tested to its limits, but he ultimately came to understand the goodness of God. Even in the midst of his suffering, he recognized that God was just and merciful. This understanding allowed him to taste the sweetness of God's love and protection. He came to know that true blessedness is found not in the absence of trials, but in the deep, abiding refuge that God provides.

Christ-like

To be **Christ-like** means to love as He loved—selflessly and sacrificially. It means to forgive as He forgave, showing mercy even to those who wrong us. It means to serve others, not out of obligation, but out of a genuine desire to reflect the heart of Christ to the world. In a world that often values power, prestige, and self-interest, living **like Christ** is counter-cultural. Yet, it is through this distinctiveness that we shine our lights in the darkness.

Being **Christ-like** also requires a heart of humility. Jesus, though fully God, did not cling to His divine privileges. Instead, He emptied Himself, taking on the form of a servant. Humility is not thinking less of ourselves, but thinking of ourselves less. It is putting others' needs before our own and seeking God's will above all else. This mindset allows us to experience the fullness of God's grace and to extend that grace to others.

As we strive to be **Christ-like**, we must also remember that this is not something we achieve by our own strength. It is the work of the Holy Spirit within us, transforming us day by day into the image of Christ. Our role is to yield to the Spirit's leading, to immerse ourselves in God's Word, and to cultivate a life of prayer. Through this, our hearts and minds are renewed, enabling us to live out the love and humility of Christ in a tangible way.

You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had.
Philippians 2:5

Psalms 34:8

**"Taste and see that the Lord is good.
O, the joys of those who take refuge in him!"**

Upcoming Events:

Chair Work Out with Jeremy
Tues and Thurs @ 11:00

Bible Study
Weds @ 11:30

Practical Living Series
Weds @ 7 pm
Sessions begin September 4th

Small Group Fair
September 8th Immediately After Morning Worship

Church Pool Party (Free)
Lancaster Recreation Center
1700 Veterans Memorial Pkwy
September 13th 6:30-8PM

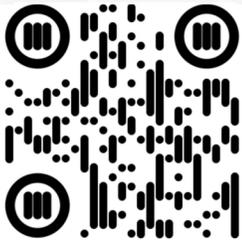


WAYS TO GIVE:

Text
GIVEOGC

To

1-888-364-4483



Oak Gardens Church
4008 S. Polk St.
Dallas, TX 75224
Dr. Paul Day,
Senior Pastor

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At Oak Gardens, We Do Life Together!!!



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