

“We have nothing to fear for the future, except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us, and His teaching in our past history.”

EGW, Life Sketches, p.196

### ACTION/QUESTIONS FOR THIS WEEK,

1. Plant a garden.
2. Continue our everyday revival prayers and devotionals.
3. Come up with a spiritual plan for the next 10 years: *preparation, action/implementation, evaluation, adjustments.*



### REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK,

REVIVAL AT CENTRAL,

[www.orlandocentral.org/revival](http://www.orlandocentral.org/revival)

ONLINE ANNOUNCEMENTS,

[www.orlandocentral.org/announcements](http://www.orlandocentral.org/announcements)

ONLINE MEETINGS \*,

**Tuesday, 7pm,** Mentoring for all Seasons

**Wednesday, 6:30pm,** Prayer in the Psalms

\* **Facebook** and **Youtube**. Search for Orlando Central SDA Church.

ONLINE GIVING,

[www.orlandocentral.org/giving](http://www.orlandocentral.org/giving)

## PREPOSTEROUS GRATITUDE

*“And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to follow Him. 7 Let your roots grow down into Him, and let your lives be built on Him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with [GRATITUDE].”*

*Colossians 2:6,7 NLT*

0. From gr. **eucharistos**; gratitude; \_\_\_\_\_, grateful language (to God, as an act of worship) -- thankfulness, (giving of) thanks(-giving).

What is your spiritual plan for the next 10 years?

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***“Failing to plan really does mean planning to fail.” Benjamin Franklin***

### **1. THE REAL PROBLEM, Matthew 13:1-9**

**1.1** The \_\_\_\_\_ , *Matthew 13:4*

“As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the **path**, and the birds came and ate it up.”

**1.2** The \_\_\_\_\_ , *Matthew 13:5*

“Some fell on **rocky** places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow.”

### 1.3 The \_\_\_\_\_, *Matthew 13:5*

“Other seed fell among **thorns**, which grew up and choked the plants.”

### 1.4 The \_\_\_\_\_, *Matthew 13:8*

“Still other seed fell on **good** soil, where it produced a crop — a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.”

Matthew 13:21, “*But since **they have no root**, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away.*”

## HOW DO WE MAKE OUR HEARTS GOOD SOIL?

“From **the tilling of the soil, lessons may constantly be learned.** No one settles upon a raw piece of land with the expectation that it will at once yield a harvest. **Diligent, persevering labor must be put forth in the preparation of the soil, the sowing of the seed, and the culture of the crop.** **So it must be in the spiritual sowing. The garden of the heart must be cultivated. The soil must be broken up by repentance. The evil growths that choke the good grain must be uprooted.** As soil once overgrown with **thorns** can be reclaimed only by **diligent labor**, so **the evil tendencies** of the heart can be overcome only **by earnest effort** in the name and strength of Christ.”

*Ellen G. White, Education, p.111*

- **SOIL, broken up by** \_\_\_\_\_.
- **EVIL, must be** \_\_\_\_\_.
- **THORNS, reclaimed by** \_\_\_\_\_
- **EVIL TENDENCIES, overcome by** \_\_\_\_\_  
**effort.**

## 2. SPIRITUAL ROOTS

### HOW DO I KNOW MY ROOTS NEED TO BE DEVELOPED? *Matthew 6:31,32*

“So don’t worry about these things, saying, ‘What will we eat? What will we drink? What will we wear?’ **32 These things dominate the thoughts of unbelievers**, but your heavenly Father already knows all your needs.”

**Sings of shallow roots:** FEAR, WORRY, ANXIETY, STRESS, GUILT, SHAME, BOREDOM, LONELINESS, RESENTMENT, BITTERNESS... GIVING UP.

### WHY DO I WANT MY ROOTS TO BE DEVELOPED?

“*But blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in him. They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. **It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit.***” Jeremiah 17:7,8

1. DON’T FEAR THE \_\_\_\_\_
2. LEAVES ARE ALWAYS \_\_\_\_\_
3. NO WORRIES WITH \_\_\_\_\_
4. NEVER FAILS TO BEAR \_\_\_\_\_

“*Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life. It turns what we have into enough and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos to order, and confusion into clarity. It can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home, a stranger into a friend. Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today, and creates a vision for tomorrow.*” (Geoff Beattie, 1990)