

Sisters and Brothers, let us persevere and be fertile soil.

01/26/2025

## Covenant Life

- Our next prayer meeting is **TODAY** at 3pm. We will welcome **new Underway Commitments** and celebrate afterward with a dinner and social. You are welcome to bring something to share but it is not required. Just come and celebrate! Children and Youth ministries will meet as usual but end a little early to join us.
- Upcoming events our community is invited to participate in together:
  - MSMCS is hosting **Ballroom Dancing Classes for Adults & High School Youth** at MSM on Monday evenings Jan 27 to March 3 from 7-8pm (\$75/person or \$125/couple \$50/student). Childcare available. Signup: <https://forms.gle/garj2CzkYCQ5ge8BA>
  - Annual **NAN Conference** will be February 20-22 in Augusta, GA. Theme is Covenant Community, and several community members are attending. To register or for more information contact me at [info@GodsDelight.org](mailto:info@GodsDelight.org)
  - **North Texas Men's Conference will be March 1** from 7:30am-3:30pm at St Elizabeth Catholic Church in Keller TX. Early Bird tickets are \$55 here: <https://www.catholicbrothersforchrist.com/mensfaithevent> Contact Chris Coxon for more Information. CCGD attendees plan to wear our Community shirts and sit together.
- [GodsDelight.org](http://GodsDelight.org) has prayer meeting [audio](#), [summaries](#), [transcripts](#), and [teachings](#).
- Your ongoing financial support to the Community is sincerely appreciated. Please enter your 2025 Promise [here](#), donate online [here](#), or mail your donations to P.O. Box 225008 Dallas, TX 75222.

## Reflection

The [Gospel](#) today has an interesting verse to consider "*the eyes of all in the synagogue looked intently at him*". Jesus has that effect on people. When we hear Him speak, we cannot help but be captivated; our attention is drawn, and we focus on Him.

If we were to witness to each other and tell our personal stories of when we first experienced Jesus, I am confident we would all be blessed. So many come away from their first encounter with Jesus, set on fire. We might radically change our lives, we might read His Word every day, we might really prioritize our days to spend quality time with Him in prayer.

But then life happens.

The parable of the Sower comes to mind. Our encounter with Jesus is a seed being planted within each of us. What kind of soil are we?

Are we a seed that fell on the path that the birds have taken? Are we a seed that fell on rocky ground, but without soil, was scorched? Are we a seed that fell among thorns and was choked off? Or are we a seed in rich soil producing abundant fruit?

Important questions to ponder. What are the birds in our lives? What activities in our lives are rocky soil? What are the thorns we permit in our lives.

One thing that I am confident in is that The Christian Community of God's Delight, you, my sisters and brothers, are rich soil. The more I am with you the more I am challenged to declare the birds as birds and avoid them...to see the activities that feel like rocks and avoid them...and to recognize the thorns that choke off God's will in my life. Together, we cultivate the soil around each other so that we can grow and produce abundant fruit.

Let us be a people who not only recognize Jesus and look intently at Him, let us be a people that perseveres for a lifetime, cultivating the soil around each other so that we never tire of producing fruit that will last. The next generation depends on us!

Let us pray, "Jesus, it is my earnest desire to follow You day by day. I invite You into all areas of my life. Heal me. Cleanse me. Fill me with Your Holy Spirit. I promise to look intently at You. I commit to avoiding the birds, rocks, and thorns that the world, the flesh, and the devil throw into my path. I take comfort in the sisters and brothers You have surrounded me with in Covenant Community. Thank You for them. Help me to always persevere in bearing fruit on Your behalf. I love You Jesus! Amen."

God Bless,  
David