

Thistlebend In the Garden Message "PREPARE"

Introduction to PREPARE. PLANT. PRUNE. PRODUCE.

1 Corinthians 3:5-9 "What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, as the Lord assigned to each. I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. He who plants and he who waters are one, and each will receive his wages according to his labor. For we are God's fellow workers. You are God's field, God's building."

Romans 8:29 tells us clearly "For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers."

Philippians 2:12-13 speaks well of this tension between the sovereignty of God and our human responsibility. "Therefore my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure."

Philippians 1:6 "And I am sure of this, that He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ."

"For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin so that in him we might become the righteousness of God." (2 Cor. 5:21)

"Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us – for it is written, 'cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree" (Gal. 3:13).

Romans 5:17 says, "For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ." And verse 19 goes on to say, "For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous."

Colossians 3:3, "For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God."

PREPARE.

Ezekiel 36.

Ephesians 4 he tells us to "put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness."

Hebrews 3:7-8 "Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says, 'Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion on the day of testing in the wilderness."

Colossians 1:12-14 "Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins."

Colossians 2:6-7 "Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving."

2 Timothy 3:16-17 "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."