

# GRASS



We see grass everywhere we look. It even grows in the cracks of concrete sidewalks. It grows in every part of the world except where the ground is always frozen.

Grass is so common that we tend to ignore just how amazing it really is. Grass can break through concrete. It can be trampled, cut, covered by snow and starved of water yet it not only lives but grows

and spreads. It may appear to be dead but it will recover and grow again. Even when it is flattened by a shoe, grass will stand up again and point upwards to heaven.

Many animals eat grass and are kept happy and healthy because of this good food. The grass is not hurt by this and grows back up again.

Lastly, grass is important to the soil on which it grows. If not for grass, the soil would dry up and blow away.

What can we learn from God's creation of grass?

Just like the love of God which is everywhere, grass is everywhere. Grass is a lesson in God's presence everywhere there are ears to hear the gospel message and a heart not frozen against the Holy Spirit. God's love for us can break through every wall a person may try to put up to keep him out. Just like the tender grass breaking through concrete, God's tender love can break through a heart hardened against Him. We know that God loves us

so much that He even gave His Son Jesus to die in order to save us from our sins. That is amazing love! Jesus tells us in John 3:16, "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

Grass has an amazing ability to endure bad treatment. There is a great lesson in this that is described by the Apostle Paul in 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 6:4-10, "As servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: in great endurance; in troubles, hardships and distresses; in beatings, imprisonments and riots; in hard work, sleepless nights and hunger; in purity, understanding, patience and kindness; in the Holy Spirit and in sincere love; in truthful speech and in the power of God with weapons of righteousness in the right hand and in the left; through glory and dishonor, bad report and good report; genuine, yet regarded as impostors; known yet regarded as unknown; dying and yet we live on; beaten and yet not killed; sorrowful yet always rejoicing; poor yet making many rich; having nothing and yet possessing everything." What this long passage

from the Bible tells us is that God will always help us when we suffer for the sake of our faith in Jesus. Like the grass which comes back to health after being hurt, we also will be restored to health after suffering because we will not turn away from Jesus.

The Bible teaches us in 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 5:10 that God will help us to be strong even when we suffer because of our love for Jesus, "The God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast." God will help us all through our lives and He will make us strong, healthy and full of joy in heaven for all eternity. Nobody likes to suffer. If we suffer for the bad things we do it is a good lesson for us. If we did not have Jesus to save us from our sins, we would suffer for all eternity. Thanks to Jesus, we will not suffer forever but have eternal joy in heaven. When we suffer for our faith in Jesus, we should be happy to share in the struggle that Jesus had when He lived on earth. When we do not follow the bad things that others who do not believe in Jesus do, we may suffer.

When we choose to follow what Jesus taught us, others may make fun of us or hurt us. We must remember that God will not leave us alone to face these troubles but he will always be at our side to help us.

Another lesson God teaches us with grass is that it spreads everywhere no matter how badly it is treated. This is a good picture of how the gospel of our salvation through Jesus spreads everywhere. The love of God and the story of how Jesus died to save us from our sins spreads to every part of the world - even in places where it is forbidden. The gospel spreads everywhere on earth and cannot be stopped. We should be proud to be part of God's kingdom. The Bible teaches us in Romans 1:16, "I am not ashamed of the gospel because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes."

Even when grass is trampled, it will rise again and point up to heaven. God teaches us that even when we have been flattened by sickness or trouble He will help us to rise again. We should be grateful

for so loving a God and always look up to heaven and offer our thanks and praises.

A lawn seems to be a solid carpet of grass but it really is made up of many single blades of grass. Each blade of grass seems to be such a small part of the lawn but each blade of grass is very important. When we put all the blades of grass together they make a beautiful carpet of grass. That is how our faith works in the world. Each one of us who believes in Jesus is like the single blade of grass. We may not think we matter very much but that is not true. We are all precious to God who gave His Son Jesus to save us. All together, we make up a beautiful witness to those who do not know Jesus and together we can work to spread the good news of our salvation. Doesn't that make you feel special?

Grass is food for many animals. If we think of grass as a gift of God we can see that God has provided this gift everywhere. No animal that eats grass needs to go hungry because there is so much grass to be found. The Bible is like food for our souls and it also is found everywhere. When we have

trouble, we should turn to God's Word and find food for our souls, help and strength. When we go to the Bible, God will not let us go hungry for His great love and mercy.

Grass helps the soil on which it grows. If not for grass, the soil would dry up and blow away. Many living things would suffer and perhaps die if this happened. God teaches us that we, like grass, are important in the city or town in which we live. Do you remember the story of God, Abraham and the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah? Sodom and Gomorrah were cities where the people were so sinful that God was going to destroy them. There were many people living in these two very evil cities but God promised Abraham that if he found only ten people who believed in God and did not do the evil that the others were doing, He would not destroy these two cities. It is sad that there were not even ten people who believed in God and did not do the evil the others were doing. Both cities were destroyed by God. The lesson for us is that each of us is very important in the city or town we live in. God would



have spared thousands of very evil people for the sake of only ten in the hope that the ten believers in God would change the lives of those who did not believe in God. Like the grass that holds the soil together and makes it healthy, each believer in Jesus can do much to work for good wherever he or she lives.

Next time you look at grass, remember just how wonderful it really is. The common lawn or field is really a classroom that God has planted and cared for so that we can learn more about just how much He loves us.

