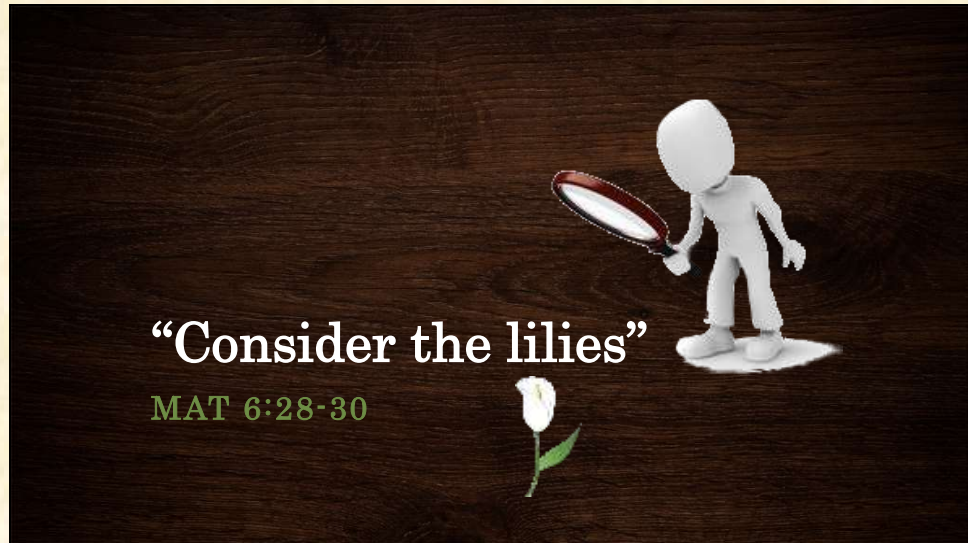


Consider the lilies

Text: Mat 6:28-30



Intro:

The ant

Prov 6:6

6) Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise:

Ravens

Luke 12:24

24) Consider the ravens: for they neither sow nor reap; which neither have storehouse nor barn; and God feedeth them: how much more are ye better than the fowls?

Ps 147:9; Job 38:41

Consider the lilies

Mat 6:28

Here the greatest voice known to man gives a command-

...Consider the lilies...

Matt 6:28-30

28) And why take ye thought for raiment?

Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin:

29) And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

30) Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into

the oven, *shall he* not much more *clothe* you, O
ye of little faith?

Consider the lilies- NOT

Admire the lilies

Enjoy the lilies

Praise the lilies...

God is not interested in you getting a B.A. in
botany

Mere head knowledge of God's word gives you
a
B.A. in Bible- bad attitude

Consider... how they grow-

Mysteriously. '*How they grow.*'

Who knows how?

So, it is with a Christian.

The lilies are proof of the ***Gardner skill.***

Unlike human gardeners-
God is responsible
For every stage of
The lilies development

What you see of a Lily is it's clothing
It's wardrobe changes as it grows

Stages of Growth

- I. Germination
- II. Bud
- III. Pollination (flower)
- IV. Seed Dispersal





“Consider the lilies”

1. GERMINATION- THE SEED
SAFETY STAGE

I. Germination stage-

The seed is the safest stage
of this future flower

GERMINATION- THE SEED SAFETY STAGE

Phil 3:1

Finally,

my brethren, rejoice in the Lord.

To write the same things to you, to me indeed *is* not grievous,

but for you *it is* safe.

Finally-

Not a conclusion but, a highlight of a salient point.

Usually Paul will follow the “finally” with how to instruction

It is Safe- (rejoicing in the Lord)

Phil 3:20-21

20) For **our conversation** is in heaven;
from whence also we look for the Saviour,
the Lord Jesus Christ:

21) Who shall change our vile body,
that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious
body,
according to the working whereby
he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.

Rejoice, a much used command

- ...thou shalt rejoice before the LORD thy God in all that thou puttest thine hands unto.
– Deut 12:18
- And thou shalt rejoice before the LORD thy God...
– Deut 16:11
- Hannah's prayer of deliverance (rejoice in thy salvation)
– 1Sam 2:1
- Rejoice because Lord is your defender
– Ps 5:11

Deut 12:18 ...thou shalt rejoice before the LORD thy God in all that thou puttest thine hands unto.

Deut 16:11 And thou shalt rejoice before the LORD thy God...

1Sam 2:1 And Hannah prayed, and said, My heart rejoiceth in the LORD, mine horn is exalted in the LORD: my mouth is enlarged over mine enemies; because I rejoice in thy salvation.

Ps 5:11 But let all those that put their trust in thee rejoice: let them ever shout for joy, because thou defendest them: let them also that love thy name be joyful in thee.

Ps 97:1 The LORD reigneth; let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of isles be glad thereof.

Isa 12:3 Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation.

Matt 5:12 Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

1Thess 5:16 Rejoice evermore.

...for you *it is* safe...

“Consider the lilies”

1. GERMINATION- THE SEED SAFETY STAGE
2. BUD- STAND/STRONG STAGE

II. Bud stage-

Standing strong

Bud- Stand/Strong Stage

Therefore, my brethren dearly beloved and longed for, my joy and crown, so **stand fast in the Lord**, my dearly beloved. *100% of the time*

Phil 4:1

- Passively
 - Phil 4:6-7 = the peace of God
 - Phil 4:8-9 = the God of peace

Passive

Phil 4:6-7

6) Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

7) And the **peace of God**, which passeth all understanding,

shall keep your **hearts and minds** through Christ Jesus.

Phil 4:8-9

8) Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things *are* honest, whatsoever things *are* just, whatsoever things *are* pure, whatsoever things *are* lovely, whatsoever things *are* of good report; if *there be* any virtue, and if *there be* any praise, think on these things.
9) Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and **the God of peace** shall be with you.

Active

Eph 6:10

10) Finally, my brethren, **be strong** in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

Eph 6:11-18

11) Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be **able to stand** against the wiles of the devil.

12) For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*.

13) Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to **withstand** in the evil day, and having done all, **to stand**.

14) Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;

15) And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

16) Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

17) And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

18) Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching

thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

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“Consider the lilies”

1. GERMINATION- THE SEED SAFETY STAGE
2. BUD- STAND/STRONG STAGE
3. POLLINATION (FLOWER)- SOCIAL STAGE

III. Pollination stage-

Flowering stage (a social stage)

“God might have made the earth bring forth
Enough for great and small,

The oak tree and the cedar tree,
Without a flower at all.

He might have made things grow enough
For every want of ours,
For luxury, medicine, and toil,
And yet have made no flowers at all.”

Pollination (flower)- Social Stage

2Cor 13:11-13

- ¹¹⁾ **Finally**, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort,
be of one mind, live in peace;
and the God of love and peace shall be with you.
¹²⁾ Greet one another with an holy kiss.
¹³⁾ All the saints salute you.

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Of one mind-

Not the very same, but from the *same source*

Phil 2:5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:

Phil 2:7-8

7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

“Consider the lilies”

1. GERMINATION- THE SEED SAFETY STAGE
2. BUD- STAND/STRONG STAGE
3. POLLINATION (FLOWER)- SOCIAL STAGE
4. SEED DISPERSAL- SUASION

IV. Seed dispersal stage-

2Thess 3:1

Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have free course, and be glorified, even as it is with you:

Byproduct

2Thess 3:16-

16) Now the Lord of peace himself give you peace always by all means. The Lord *be* with you all.

Conclusion:

Ezek 12:3

Therefore, thou son of man, prepare thee stuff for removing, and remove by day in their sight; and thou shalt remove from thy place to another place in their sight: it may be they will consider, though they *be* a rebellious house.

2Tim 2:7

Consider what I say; and the Lord give thee understanding in all things.