



The Garden View

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The Right Tool

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I think we underestimate the work that we double for ourselves when we go about a job using a less than ideal tool. There is a big difference between plowing a garden when you have a motorized tiller versus digging up the plods of earth by hand. Similarly, watering plants everyday becomes light work when you keep the watering can in the same, easy to locate spot and do not have to go searching for it every time you remember your seedlings need hydration.

Sometimes, a longer process work is necessary for a certain type of lesson or discipline that we need to hone. But often, we can remove simple barriers for ourselves and gain greater access to the real work that needs to be done just by using the right tool or getting the right instruction first. You would not

rake leaves with a water hose or try to build a tomato cage out of paper.

The work, it seems, is inevitable. Whether we plant a physical garden or not, we are still invested in nurturing growth within our own lives...or not. If life is left unruly and without regular attendance, the weeds will certainly grow.

Jesus offers us the necessary tools and way of life to make our work not only bearable, but fruitful. He offers us prayer, scripture, and community in order to make our work light. He offers His very life as a step-by-step model for how to get things done the right way. And best of all, He is willing to teach us how to do it for ourselves and for each other.

Matthew 11:28-30 NIV

28 "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."