

WEEDS

I once had a neighbor who stopped caring for his backyard. It had been a well landscaped yard with grass and manicured bushes. But for some reason, he decided to stop watering and caring for his yard. A couple of years passed and it became nothing but weeds.

What is interesting is that I never saw him planting weeds. In fact, I have never seen anyone

plant weeds. Weeds just appear when yards are left unattended.

« I went past the field of a sluggard, past the vineyard of someone who has no sense; thorns had come up everywhere, the ground was covered with weeds, and the stone wall was in ruin. I applied my heart to what I observed and learned a lesson from what I saw: A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest— and poverty will come on you like a thief and scarcity like an armed man. » **Proverbs 24:30-34**

Our lives can be compared to yards and gardens. We must continually be aware of the condition of our hearts, the thoughts of our minds and the words of our mouths. It is very easy to become complacent and drift away from the Lord, by neglecting time in the Word and prayer. Without even realizing it, we can find ourselves slowly hardened in our relationship with God.

We don't plant the weeds of indifference, self-sufficiency and laziness. They are just a part of the flesh and the corrupt environment of this world. <u>Neglect attracts weeds.</u>

Taking personal time with the Lord and in His Word is a daily responsibility. Stir yourself up. Don't let your life be overgrown with weeds. Check your heart and keep your eyes on the Lord.

I should as soon expect a farmer to prosper in business who contented himself with sowing his fields and never looking at them till harvest, as expect a believer to attain much holiness who was not diligent about his Bible reading and fellowship with God.

« That you do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises. » **Hebrews 6:12**

« God is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him. » Hebrews 11:6

« For as long as you practice these things, you will never stumble. » 2 Peter 1:10

« You should diligently keep the commandments of the LORD your God, and His testimonies and His statutes which He has commanded you. » **Deuteronomy 6:17**

« Watch over your heart with all diligence, For from it flow the springs of life. » Proverbs 4:23

« Therefore, beloved, since you look for these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, spotless and blameless. » **2 Peter 3:14**