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*The Lily of
the Valley:*

Experiencing Jesus in
our lowest places

The Lily of the Valley: Experiencing Jesus in Our Lowest Places

There is a flower that grows where others cannot. It is small, humble, often hidden. Yet it releases one of the sweetest fragrances in all of creation. It is called the Lily of the Valley.

Song of Solomon 2:1 (ESV) *I am a rose of Sharon, a lily of the valleys*

For centuries, God's people have seen in this verse a picture of Jesus. He is not a lily of the mountaintop. He is not a lily of the palace garden. He is the Lily of the valleys. He meets us in our lowest places. He is already there before we arrive.

Today, we will discover four things about the Lily of the Valley:

1. The Lily Grows in the Valley — Jesus meets us where we are.
2. The Lily Blooms in the Valley — Jesus brings life from death.
3. The Lily Multiplies in the Valley — Jesus builds a legacy through us.
4. The Lily Releases Fragrance in the Valley — Jesus uses our pain for purpose.

I. The Lily Grows in the Valley - Jesus Meets Us Where We Are

Growing is surviving. It is enduring. It is being held. It is knowing you are not alone. The Lily of the Valley does not grow on the mountain peak. It grows low. It grows in the quiet places where other flowers cannot survive. This is where Jesus meets us.

Psalms 23:4 (ESV) *Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.*

Isaiah 43:2 (NLT) *When you go through deep waters, I will be with you. When you go through rivers of difficulty, you will not drown. When you walk through the fire of oppression, you will not be burned up; the flames will not consume you.*

Genesis 28:15 (ESV) *Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land. For I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.*

Psalms 34:18 (ESV) *The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.*

Isaiah 41:10 (ESV) *Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.*

Genesis 39:2 (ESV) *The Lord was with Joseph, and he became a successful man.*

Genesis 39:21, (ESV) *But the Lord was with Joseph and showed him steadfast love.*

1 John 4:16-19 (ESV) *So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. We love because he first loved us.*

To those walking through your own valley today—whether it is depression, anxiety, doubt, financial struggle, or relationship and family issues—hear this promise: the Lily of the Valley is already there. He has not abandoned you. He has not forgotten you. This is the growing stage. You may not be blooming yet. And that is okay. Right now, you just need to know Jesus is with you. You are being held. You are growing.

Pray this simple prayer: God, help me see that You are with me. That is enough.

II. The Lily Blooms in the Valley - Jesus Brings Life from Death

Blooming is thriving. It is producing. It is releasing beauty and fragrance. It is seeing God bring resurrection from the valley. The Lily of the Valley does not just survive in the valley. It blooms there. In the cold ground of winter, the bulb lies hidden. It looks dead. It looks finished. But when the season turns, a green shoot emerges. A stem rises. A beautiful white flower blooms.

Romans 6:4 (NLT) *For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives.*

Isaiah 61:3 (ESV) *To grant to those who mourn in Zion—to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he may be glorified.*

John 11:25 (NLT) *I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying.*

2 Corinthians 5:17 (ESV) *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.*

Jeremiah 29:11 (ESV) *For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.*

Ezekiel 37:4 (ESV) *Prophesy to these bones and say to them, 'O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord'*

1 Thessalonians 4:13 (ESV) *But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope.*

If you are growing right now—if you are just surviving—the bloom is coming. It may not come today. It may not come tomorrow. But the Lily of the Valley is not finished with you. He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion Philippians 1:6.

III. The Lily Multiplies in the Valley - Jesus Builds a Legacy Through Us

Multiplying is passing down. It is investing in the next generation. It is trusting that the faith we plant today will bloom tomorrow. The Lily of the Valley multiplies. It spreads. It returns year after year. One bulb becomes two. Two become four. Four become eight. It fills the valley with beauty and fragrance.

Psalm 78:4 (ESV) *We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders that he has done.*

Deuteronomy 6:6-7 (NLT) *And you must commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these commands that I am giving you today. Repeat them again and again to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up.*

2 Timothy 1:5 (NLT) *I remember your genuine faith, for you share the faith that first filled your grandmother Lois and your mother, Eunice. And I know that same faith continues strong in you.*

Psalm 145:4 (ESV) *One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts.*

Proverbs 22:6 (ESV) *Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.*

Psalm 103:17 (ESV) *But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him, and his righteousness to children's children.*

Genesis 17:7 (ESV) *I will establish my covenant between me and you and your offspring after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.*

This was not just a promise for Abraham—it was a promise for his children, his grandchildren, his great-grandchildren. The faith of Abraham was passed to Isaac. The faith of Isaac was passed to Jacob. The faith of Jacob was passed to the twelve tribes of Israel. The Lily of the Valley multiplied.

Yesterday, two people gave their lives to Christ. That is multiplication. That is the Lily spreading. That is the Kingdom advancing. And now, we have the joy and the responsibility of walking with them, teaching them, and helping them grow. The Lily multiplies.

IV. The Lily Releases Fragrance in the Valley - Jesus Uses Our Pain for Purpose

Releasing fragrance is worshiping in the valley. It is praising in the pain. It is trusting that God is doing something beautiful even when we cannot see it. The Lily of the Valley is renowned for its fragrance. Its perfume is sweet, delicate, and unmistakable. This is a picture of what it means to live in daily victory. It is not about avoiding pain. It is about releasing the fragrance of Christ even in the midst of pain.

2 Corinthians 2:14-15 (ESV) *But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of him everywhere. For we are the aroma of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing.*

Philippians 4:6-7 (NLT) *Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.*

Hebrews 13:15-16 (ESV) *Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.*

Romans 8:28 (ESV) *And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.*

James 1:2-3 (ESV) *Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness.*

Romans 5:3-5 (ESV) *Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.*

Job 1:21 (ESV) *The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.*

Job 13:15 (ESV) *Though he slay me, yet will I hope in him.*

Job released the fragrance of praise in the valley. He worshiped in the low places. And through his faithfulness, he became a testimony of God's faithfulness to countless generations. The fragrance of the Lily of the Valley is released most powerfully when it is crushed. Your valley, your pain, your struggle—God can use it. He can turn it into something beautiful. He can release a fragrance through you that will draw others to Him.

Instead of complaining, thank God for one thing. Speak it out loud. You are releasing a fragrance.

- The Lily Grows in the Valley — Jesus meets us where we are. Growing is surviving. It is being held. It is knowing you are not alone.
- The Lily Blooms in the Valley — Jesus brings life from death. Blooming is thriving. It is resurrection. It is new life emerging from the valley. And we saw it yesterday—two souls saved, two hearts made new.
- The Lily Multiplies in the Valley — Jesus builds a legacy through us. Multiplying is passing down. It is investing in the next generation.
- The Lily Releases Fragrance in the Valley — Jesus uses our pain for purpose. Releasing fragrance is worshiping in the valley. It is praising in the pain.

Giving is an act of worship. It is a declaration that we trust the Lily of the Valley to provide. It is a planting of seeds in the valley. It is a releasing of fragrance. It is a multiplication of the Kingdom. When we give, we are saying: God, You are my source. You are my provider. You are the Lily of the Valley, and I trust You.

2 Corinthians 9:6-8 (NLT) *Remember this—a farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants generously will get a generous crop. You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. For God loves a person who gives cheerfully. And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others.*

Malachi 3:10 (NLT) *Bring all the tithes into the storehouse so there will be enough food in my Temple. If you do, says the Lord of Heaven's Armies, I will open the windows of heaven for you. I will pour out a blessing so great you won't have enough room to take it in! Try it! Put me to the test!*

Proverbs 3:9-10 (NLT) *Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the best part of everything you produce. Then he will fill your barns with grain, and your vats will overflow with good wine.*