



It's just a few weeks from the most important day we celebrate as Christians - Easter. Before this singular event we had no hope, and death was as most believe it to be, an empty finality that is inescapable. But now with the singular event of the resurrection of Jesus, everything has changed.

It's changed for any and all people who have put their hope in Jesus smashing death. But of course that leaves too many to count, that don't yet have this amazing salvation from death and hell.

Which brings me to what's I was thinking about today - Easter gardening! Not gardening in your yard, but the gardening that takes place in the hearts of people.

Every believer has three extremely important and powerful gardening tools. Before any actually planting goes on we must first till the soil. I would suggest that this happens when Christians use the tool of prayer. Pray for the unsaved. Prayer is the best tool for breaking up the soul (soil) of the hard heart. Although your unbelieving family, friends, neighbors and co-workers may not know they need you to pray for them, they do. We need to get in the garden of prayer and ask the Lord to prepare their hearts to be open to His love and grace.

We also have the tool of speech/communication. Tell your unbelieving or unchurched family, friends, neighbors and co-workers about what Jesus has done for you and

them. Invite them to Easter Celebration. Use your Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat and any other social media platforms you're on as a tool to invite people.

Yes, I too feel intimidated at times. You might wonder what to say, how to say it or when. I'm mindful of the WellSpring challenge - before doing anything else as you wake each morning, pray that the Holy Spirit would fill and empower you.

This is our final tool. To pray for yourself and all believers to be filled with the Spirit, so that you/they would be compelled by compassion to have the boldness to tell others about the Good News.

The Apostle Paul uses these words to encourage us to use this last gardening tool.

*Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere.*

*And pray for me, too. Ask God to give me the right words so I can boldly explain God's mysterious plan that the Good News is for Jews and Gentiles alike.*

*Ephesians 6:18-19*

Anybody ready for some gardening?

Pastor Scott

P.S. Join us for gardening this Wednesday night at 7:15p as we pray.