

DAILY DEVOS WITH PHIL

DAY 7 : PEACE OVER PANIC

Hey Everybody,

We're talking about trees at the moment. What can we learn from them? Jesus describes the Kingdom of God as being like a mustard seed that grows up into this big, beautiful tree (see Matthew 13:31–32). That's the picture God sees for your life and for mine too.

Can I encourage you, don't get worried or anxious in this season that we're in. Use this time in Lockdown to your advantage. If you just keep making good choices through every season (including this one), your life is going to continue to grow. And that's good news for all of us. Maybe now is your opportunity to take stock of the areas where you haven't been making good decisions and turn things around.

Often, when we start making good choices and building good habits, we want to see results straightaway. Recently, my son Zac had a school project that involved planting some beans in soil and observing them grow. Nothing happened for a few days. And then our dog got in on the action and dug up the beans so that we had to replant everything. Day after day, we watered the beans and waited, but still saw no progress.

Then one day, Zac sent me a picture of a green shoot pushing through the ground. Let me tell you, it was a day of celebration! A moment of pure excitement! I was so thankful that we'd seen some growth.

And that's how life can be too. It can feel like nothing is happening, but if you keep making good decisions, if you keep trusting God, if you keep allowing Him to work in your heart and in your life, the beautiful evidence of growth is going to start appearing in every area.

I love what James says (in James 1:2–4 NKJV): *'My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.'*

God is at work even when you can't see it. Just like a tree grows tall and beautiful over time, your life is going to grow and produce something beautiful, if you keep making good choices.

This is Phil signing off. God bless you. And, remember, spread the love, not the virus.