

## Spiritual Watering

Commented [SU1]: Good title!

My brother and I had the opportunity ~~along to work~~ with other youth in our stake to help prepare the Pocatello ~~Idaho~~ Temple for ~~the-its~~ open house. ~~On the temple grounds, w~~We got to planted flowers ~~in the grounds~~ around the newly constructed building. A grounds representative ~~instructed us on~~taught us the proper way to treat each small plant. He demonstrated how we should tip each plastic container and gently squeeze the sides until the flower's roots loosened and the flower, ~~with~~its condensed block of potting soil, and ~~its~~ entwined roots slipped out of the container ~~and~~ into our hand. ~~We then needed to insert t~~The ~~entire~~ block of roots ~~was then inserted~~ into ~~the a~~ freshly dug hole, and ~~lightly we tapped tap~~ the soil down ~~lightly~~ around the flower's stem. ~~If we did these things, the flower would grow up healthy.~~

Commented [SU2]: I added a sentence that would help conclude the paragraph.

~~-We did this for an hour before it was time to head home, and I enjoyed serving at the Temple in this way.~~

Commented [SU3]: I love this, but readers will already be able to tell that that you enjoyed serving at the temple, because the way you write about it shows that you enjoyed it. So I'm going to remove this because it's already understood :)

~~We headed home when we were finished, and As we were leaving,~~ the grounds crew ~~started~~ watering~~ed~~ the newly planted flowers.- I thought about how crazy it would be if they ~~just~~ watered the new plants ~~just~~ once and then never watered them again. All ~~of~~ our hard work would be ~~for nothing wasted~~, because the flowers would die. ~~It was important~~Instead, the grounds crew ~~would need that they be to~~ watered ~~them~~ often, on a specific schedule, so ~~as to help that~~ the young roots ~~would~~ acclimatize and ~~strengthen become stronger~~ in their new home.

Our faith is the same. ~~How we start building our faith is important, just like how we plant a flower. But Just like the small flowers we planted, we also can't not expect our faith to continue to growing after we just one "watering" nourish it only once.- If we feel the Spirit while listening to our Prophet ask us to do something, we need to follow through and do that thing that he has admonished us to do, consistently, with determination to be obedient in all things. By doing this,~~

Commented [SU4]: I added this sentence to tie the topic back to the first paragraph.

Commented [SU5]: Great comparison!

Consistency is key. In 2 Nephi 31:20, Nephi teaches us that we must “press forward with a steadfastness in Christ.” Consistently nourishing our faith helps us to stay spiritually protected and become more like Christ. When the prophets ask us to do something frequently, like attend the temple, we need to follow through and do it. When the Spirit gives us promptings, we need to listen and act with determination to be completely obedient. By doing these things consistently, we can nourish our faith so that it grows, instead of nourishing it only once and then allowing it to shrivel like a neglected plant. Like how flowers’ roots strengthen with each watering, our belief and testimony in our Savior becomes more and more unshakable as we continually live His teachings.

Nephi continues, “Wherefore, if ye shall press forward, feasting upon the word of Christ, and endure to the end, behold, thus sayeth the Father: Ye shall have eternal life.”

When my brother and I returned to the temple grounds, a few days later to assist with the open house, I saw that the flowers we had planted were thriving. I want to thrive as well. I want to consistently do those things that will strengthen my testimony and my faith in Jesus Christ. I want to follow Nephi’s counsel to “press forward” in nourishing my spiritual roots.

**Commented [SU6]:** I moved the previous paragraph here because it seemed to match the topic of this paragraph, so it was helpful to combine them.

**Commented [SU7]:** I added this to make the paragraph’s conclusion stronger.

**Commented [SU9]:** Good job bringing the article full circle!

**Commented [SU10]:** Correct?

**Commented [SU13]:** This is fantastic! I love that you were able to learn something so beautiful from something as simple as planting and watering flowers. If this gets published, I’m sure it will bless many people’s lives. Also, there were very few errors—most of the editing I did was for clarity and organization. Молодец!