



Thursday Thought

by Pastor Myron D. Atkinson

Garden Tiller Stupidity

Thursday, 10-25-2018

Verse for the week: Ephesians 3:20 (NLT) “Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think.”

Underutilized– Verb: to utilize less than fully or below the potential use, wasted and not used well

Two years ago I told Mandy we had to have a garden tiller for our garden we were going to make. One day at Lowe's, I found one for nearly half price that someone had returned, and I knew it was a God moment. It was meant to be! I had been looking for a rear tine tiller because they are supposed to be easier to use, and this was it. We purchased it, and when we got it home I couldn't wait to use it. I pushed it to where I was going to till up our garden and started it and began to till. The only problem was that it wasn't self-propelled. Why would anyone buy a rear tine tiller that wasn't self-propelled? Rather than admit my mistake to my wife, who had already asked me several times if this was really the tiller I wanted, I used it anyway. I man-handled and fought with the tiller and not only tilled up a garden but also an area that I needed to plant grass seed. When I was finished, I power-washed it, admitted my defeat to my wife, and we decided to put it on Craig's list. Well...it never made it on Craig's list, and after another year went by I found myself needing to use it. I drug it out of the garage and found that the tire was flat. In looking at it, I realized the tires come off very easily. Not only did they come off easily by removing a pin, but I also noticed that there was a hole I could put the pin through on the drive motor. Seriously--was this really a “self-propelled” tiller? Yep it was!! And boy let me tell you, It was so much easier to use than before! I realized that I had underutilized the tiller!

As I thought about it I realized this was similar to many of our prayer lives. It's much more powerful than we know, yet we frequently underutilize it. Sometimes we think we have to pray a huge formal prayer or be in a specific place, but in reality we can pray at any time, in any place, and using the normal language that we use to talk to anyone. We can pray about things we think are insignificant and we can pray about things that seem impossible. The key is that we get in the habit of praying more rather than less. The more we pray, the more we will realize how powerful it really is!

Question to ask yourself: How is your prayer life? Are you underutilizing prayer?