

"AS THE LIFE OF A FLOWER!"



(SLIDE #1) "AS THE LIFE OF A FLOWER!"

Introduction:

- A. This Time Of Year Is A Glorious Time To Let Your Eyes And Heart Be Touch By The Glory Of Flowers!
- B. I Hope You Take Time To Look, Appreciate, And Rejoice In The Glory Of Flowers.
- C. (Slide #2) Hymn: "As The Life Of A Flower."

Verse 1:

"As the life of a flower,
As a breath or a sigh,
So the years that we live
As a dream hasten by;
True, today we are here,
But tomorrow may see
Just a grave in the vale,
And a memory of me.

Refrain:

As the life of a flower,
As a breath, or a sigh,
So the years glide away,
And alas, we must die.

(Slide #3) Verse 2:

As the life of a flower,
Be our lives pure and sweet;
May we brighten the way
For the friends that we greet;
And sweet incense arise,
From our hearts as we live

Close to Him who doth teach
Us to love and forgive.

Refrain:

As the life of a flower,
As a breath, or a sigh,
So the years glide away,
And alas, we must die.

(Slide #4) Verse 3:

While we tarry below
Let us trust and adore
Him who leads us each day
Tow'rd the radiant shore
Where the sun never sets,
And the flowers never fade,
Where no sorrow or death
May its borders invade.

Refrain:

As the life of a flower,
As a breath, or a sigh,
So the years glide away,
And alas, we must die.”

Lyrics by: Laura E. Newell
Music by: George H. Ramsey

D. **(Slide #5)** Flowers Glorify The Incredible Mind Of God And The Creative Genius Of Jesus Christ!!

I. **(Slide #6)** The Glory Of Flowers!

A. **(Slide #7)** Rose

B. **(Slide #8)** Forget Me Not

C. **(Slide #9)** Chrysanthemum

- D. **(Slide #10)** Dahlia
- E. **(Slide #11)** Dark Pink Cosmos
- F. **(Slide #12)** Tulip
- G. **(Slide #13)** Inside Of A Tulip
- H. **(Slide #14)** Inside Of A Tulip
- I. **(Slide #15)** Hibiscus
- J. **(Slide #16)** Viola
- K. **(Slide #17)** Fire Wheel (Galillardai Pulchella)
- L. **(Slide #18)** Pompom or Ball Dahlias
- M. **(Slide #19)** White Bleeding Heart
- N. **(Slide #20)** Pink Bleeding Heart
- O. **(Slide #21)** Water Lily
- P. **(Slide #22)** Yellow Lily
- Q. **(Slide #23)** Bird Of Paradise

II. (Slide #24) The Life Of A Flower!

- A. From A Very Healthy, Beautiful Flower, To A Weakened Flower, To A Drab, Dying, Unattractive Plant.
- B. They Begin As An Unattractive Bud.
- C. Then A Radiant Flower.
- D. Then A Weakened Plant.
- E. Then A Droopy, Soggy, Wilted Ugly, Dying Plant.
- F. Wilted Flowers:
 - 1. **(Slide #25)** Wilted Rose
 - 2. **(Slide #26)** Wilted Daisy
 - 3. **(Slide #27)** Wilted Sunflower
 - 4. **(Slide #28)** Wilted Sunflower

III. (Slide #29) Man's Life Compared To The Life Of A Flower.

- A. (►) Life Can Be Beautiful; It Passes SO Quickly.
 - 1. Refrain Of The Hymn:

“As the life of a flower,
As a **breath**, or a **sigh**,
So the years glide away,
And alas, we must die.”
 - 2. A flower can be SO hardy! It can survive, heavy rain, heat, and wind.
 - 3. HOWEVER, it is here; it is gone SO QUICKLY!!!
 - 4. Earthly life is fleeting and flying by!
 - 5. It is like a breath, a sigh, or a dream!
 - 6. Job 7:16 “I loathe *my life*; I would not live forever. Let me alone, For my days *are but* a breath.”

7. Job 14:1,2 “Man *who is* born of woman Is of few days and full of trouble. ²He comes forth like a flower and fades away; He flees like a shadow and does not continue.”
8. Js. 4:14 “whereas you do not know what *will happen* tomorrow. For what *is* your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away.”
9. Ps. 90:9,10 “For all our days have passed away in Your wrath; We finish our years like a sigh. ¹⁰The days of our lives *are* seventy years; And if by reason of strength *they are* eighty years, Yet their boast *is* only labor and sorrow; For it is soon cut off, and we fly away.”
10. I Pet. 1:24 “because ‘*All flesh is as grass, And all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, And its flower falls away,*’”
11. We, like a flower, are going to die! Heb. 9:27 “And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment,”

B. (►) Brighten Life While You Are At Your Best!

1. Verse 2 of the song:

“As the life of a flower,
 Be our lives pure and sweet;
 May we brighten the way
 For the friends that we greet;
 And sweet incense arise,
 From our hearts as we live
 Close to Him who doth teach
 Us to love and forgive.”

2. Flowers can bring so much joy and can lift your heart!
3. While here, LIVE FOR JESUS!
 - a. Phil. 1:21,22 “For to me, to live *is* Christ, and to die *is* gain. ²²But if *I* live on in the flesh, this *will mean* fruit from *my* labor; yet what I shall choose I cannot tell.”
 - b. Glorify the Lord by the beauty of Christian life!
4. Let your light shine beautifully and glorify God! Mt. 5:16 “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.”
5. If God’s people stop living for Him and being examples of faithfulness to Him, they become like Ephraim in Is. 28:1,4 who are describes as a flower whose “glorious beauty is a fading flower.”

6. “Let The Beauty Of Jesus Be Seen In Me!”

C. (▶) Contrast A Flower, The Spirit Of Man, And The Word Of God!

1. I Pet. 1:24,25 “because *‘All flesh is as grass, And all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, And its flower falls away,* ²⁵*But the word of the LORD endures forever.’* Now this is the word which by the gospel was preached to you.”
2. Life is brief and fleeting; God’s Word will survive forever; man will live forever!

D. (Slide #30) Do Not Convince Yourself That Possessions In This Life Are Eternal!

1. Js. 1:10,11 “but the rich in his humiliation, because as a flower of the field he will pass away. ¹¹For no sooner has the sun risen with a burning heat than it withers the grass; its flower falls, and its beautiful appearance perishes. So the rich man also will fade away in his pursuits.”
2. Our possessions and wealth are fleeting and can be gone so quickly.
3. Even if they outlast our earthly lives, they still are SO MUCH LIKE FLOWERS!

E. (▶) Difficult Circumstances Can Destroy Your Beauty!

1. Lack of water or too much blazing hot sun can destroy the beauty of a flower.
2. Aging can be REALLY TOUGH!
3. As you age, beauty wanes, strength saps, sharpness of mind declines -- aging can be TOUGH!

F. (▶) Please Don’t Always Talk About What You WILL DO In The Future!

1. Remember, our life is “As The Life Of A Flower.”
2. Do it NOW!
3. Life can be gone SO quickly!

G. (▶) While Here On Earth, Trust Jesus And Look Toward Heaven -- That Which Will Be Eternally Beautiful!

1. Verse 3:

“While we tarry below
Let us trust and adore
Him who leads us each day
Tow’rd the radiant shore
Where the sun never sets,
And the flowers never fade,
Where no sorrow or death
May its borders invade.”

2. Trust in Jesus while here; look for Heaven -- the sun never sets; flowers never fade, no sorrow or death can invade it borders!
3. Rev. 21:4 “And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.”
4. There is NO NIGHT there! Rev. 21:23,25