

From Death to Life

JOHN 12:20-33

A crowd of people from Greece gathered with Jesus' disciples. The Greeks hadn't heard Jesus teach before and wanted to hear his message.

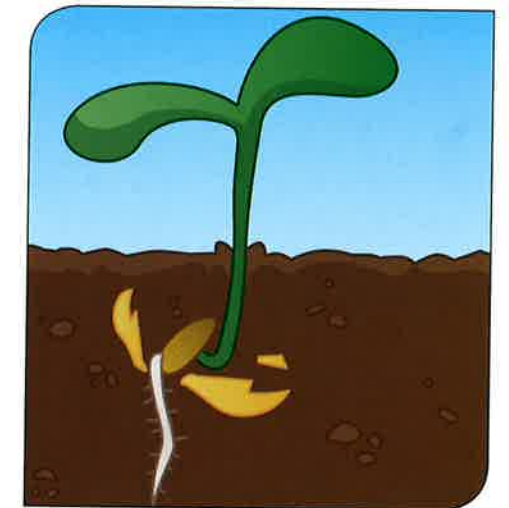
"Have you ever tried to grow a plant?" Jesus asked. "Before a plant can grow, you have to bury a seed. The seed dies. And then it comes to life as a plant—a plant that bears fruit, like grapes or grain!"

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What foods have seeds?

"My life is like the seed," Jesus continued. "Like the seed, I will die. But then I will come alive again."

The Greeks wondered at these words. Jesus was going to die and come back to life? How was that possible? They had never heard someone teach like Jesus.



Hey, that's kind of like the tulips in our yard. They look dead in the fall, but they come back every spring.



Suddenly God's voice rang out like crashing thunder. "Listen to my Son!"

The crowd jumped in surprise.

"God is talking to you!" Jesus said. "I will die and come back to life. When I'm gone, people will realize who I am. They will think of others first. They will choose to give up things so they can serve me. Like the seed that becomes a plant, they will bear fruit that feeds the world!"

The Greeks were amazed. They wanted to learn more. "How do we serve you, Jesus?" they asked.

"Whoever wants to serve me must follow me," Jesus told them. "Listen to my words. Serve others. Love others. Then you will want to serve MORE and love MORE! That's how you serve and follow me."

How do you get on with regular life after God talks to you?



You don't, Otto. I think that's the point.

