

## *Christ Taught From Nature*

**If then God so clothe the grass, which is today in the field, and tomorrow is cast into the oven; how much more will he clothe you, O ye of little faith? Luke 12:28. {UL 98.1}**

God encourages us to contemplate His works in the natural world. He desires that we shall turn our mind from the study of the artificial to the natural. We shall understand this better as we lift up our eyes to the hills of God and contemplate the works which His own hands have created. They are God's work. His hand has molded the mountains and balances them in their position, that they shall not be moved except at His command. The wind, the sun, the rain, the snow, and the ice are all His ministers to do His will. {UL 98.2}

Can we be surprised, then, that Christ, who made all things, should choose the open air as His sanctuary; that He should desire to be surrounded by the works of His creation? ... Jesus drew His lessons of spiritual instruction from the natural things with which His hearers were familiar. These He used to represent the truth. He would pluck the lilies, the flower of the valley, and place them in the hands of the little children, and by these simple instructors proclaim the truth of His Word. The Word of God and the things of nature around us are our lesson book. God has spread out before our senses the beauties of nature, and He watches with pleasure and a Father's joy the delight of His children in the beautiful things around them. {UL 98.3}

The root of the tree has a double office to fill. It is to hold fast by its tendrils to the earth, while it takes to itself the nourishment desired. Thus, it is with the Christian. When his union with Christ, the parent stalk, is complete, when he feeds upon Him, currents of spiritual strength are given to the branches. Can the leaves of such a branch wither? Never. As long as the soul reaches toward Christ, there is little danger that the leaves will wilt and droop and decay. **And the temptations which may come in like a tempest will not uproot him. The true Christian draws his motives of action from his deep love for his Redeemer. His affection for his Master is true and holy. And it is the cheerful, lovable Christian of whom Christ says, "Ye are my witnesses" (Isaiah 43:10)....** {UL 98.4}

Those who have fled to God for refuge; those who have believed the heaven-sent message, who believe the assurance that, if they confess their sins, He is faithful and just to forgive them their sins, God will cleanse from all unrighteousness. Our God has pledged His word by His own greatness and infinity that He will bestow pardon and peace upon all who will come to Him in the name of Jesus.—Manuscript 16, March 25, 1897, "Principles of Education." {UL 98.5}

## **Rock of Ages**

Rock of ages, cleft for me  
 Let me hide myself in Thee  
 Rock of ages, cleft for me  
 Let me hide myself in Thee

Let the water and the blood  
 From Thy riven side which flowed  
 Be of sin the double cure  
 Cleanse me from its guilt and power

Nothing in my hand I bring  
 Simply to Thy cross I cling  
 Nothing in my hand I bring  
 Simply to Thy cross I cling

Naked, come to Thee for dress  
 Helpless, look to Thee for grace  
 Vile, I to the fountain fly  
 Wash me, savior, or I die

Rock of ages, cleft for me  
 Let me hide myself in Thee  
 Rock of ages, cleft for me  
 Let me hide myself in Thee

## **OPENING PRAYER:**

Heavenly Father let this be our joy and prayer:

Those who have fled to God for refuge; those who have believed the heaven-sent message, who believe the assurance that, if they confess their sins, He is faithful and just to forgive them their sins, God will cleanse from all unrighteousness. Our God has pledged His word by His own greatness and infinity that He will bestow pardon and peace upon all who will come to Him in the name of Jesus, Amen

## **Green Juice in a Blender**

PREP: 10 MINUTES  
YIELD: 4 SERVINGS

### **INGREDIENTS**

- **1 1/2 cups** water
- **2 cups** kale
- **2** green apples, cored
- **1/2 cup** parsley leaves
- **1** medium cucumber, quartered
- **2** celery stalks, roughly chopped
- **1** (1-inch) piece of ginger, peeled
- **2 Tablespoons** lemon juice
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### **EQUIPMENT:**

- blender; fine mesh sieve (optional)

### **INSTRUCTIONS**

Add all of the ingredients into the blender jug in the order in which they are listed. Blend the ingredients on the highest-level setting, such as "liquefy," until the juice is well-blended. (It will be the consistency of a smoothie.)

If you want to enjoy the pulp with your juice, pour the mixture into glasses and serve. If you prefer a thinner consistency, pour the mixture through a fine mesh sieve, and using a spatula, press the pulp into the sieve to extract as much liquid as possible. Pour the strained juice into glasses and serve.

### **KELLY'S NOTES:**

I prefer my juice to be pulp-free, so to take it one step further, I like to strain the mixture through cheesecloth and wring out as much liquid as possible. opt for whatever consistency you prefer, but of course there are additional hearty nutrients in all that pulp.

**COLSING THOUGHT:**

God encourages us to contemplate His works in the natural world. He desires that we shall turn our mind from the study of the artificial to the natural. We shall understand this better as we lift up our eyes to the hills of God and contemplate the works which His own hands have created. They are God's work. His hand has molded the mountains and balances them in their position, that they shall not be moved except at His command. The wind, the sun, the rain, the snow, and the ice are all His ministers to do His will.

**CLOSING PRAYER:**

Heavenly Father

Let the water and the blood  
From Thy riven side which flowed  
Be of sin the double cure  
Cleanse me from its guilt and power  
In Jesus precious name I pray, Amen.