

Upsy Daisy!



He Loves Me
He Loves Me LOTS!

A Delightful Daisy
Spring Banquet



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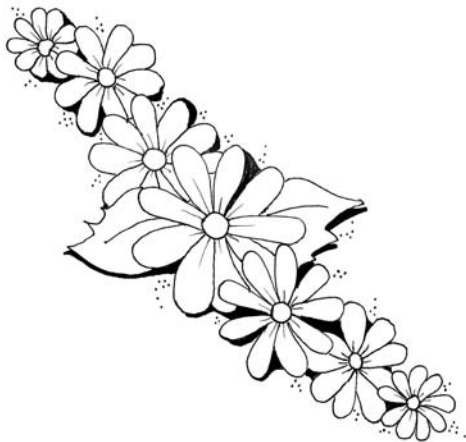
Upsy Daisy!

He Loves Me, He Loves Me LOTS!

*“... Consider how the wild flowers grow.
They do not labor or spin.
Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor
was dressed like one of these.”*

Luke 12:27 NIV

A flower does not think of competing
with the flower next to it.
It just blooms.

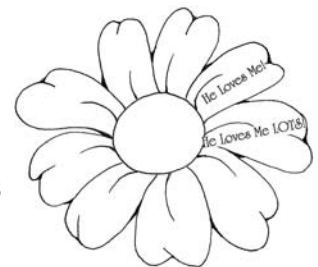


Open These Pages
To a Wild Flower-y
Spring Banquet!



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Come To The Meadow A Party is Fun and Fun is Good!

May daisies bloom in all corners of your world.

Follow our tips and add your creative touches to make "Upsy Daisy" a unique event that will be remembered for years. Manage arrangements and develop the delightful 'daisy' theme.



*From the first moment the planning team meets
until the last note of music is played
and the final crystal cup is tucked away,
capture the imagination of every girl
from three to ninety three...or ninety four!
Smiles and sweet tears
are proof that this gathering
has been a success.*

*Attitude is a little thing
That makes a big difference.*

Prepare A Banquet Before Them!

A banquet is a party featuring food as the main attraction. Add a program, a speaker or local entertainment. The occasion is comfortable and social. One popular Spring tradition is the *Mother and Daughter Banquet*. There are other occasions when banquets are enjoyable. Evening events, women's programs, holiday gatherings, annual retreats, summer picnics and even father and child banquets.



Create An Informal Gathering

A Party is a fun and games event where people mix for sparkling conversation, good food and laughter. Parties tend to be informal and hosts do not go to extra trouble to decorate. Sometimes parties do not have to be planned at all.

While party games were once wildly popular, there are groups who do not enjoy a lot of organized activity. Create a highly enjoyable experience. The activities should fit the needs of the guests.

A larger party requires detailed planning to handle the program, publicity, decorating, refreshments and clean up. It is a great party if you create your own fun and then remember the event fondly.

Pay Attention to Details

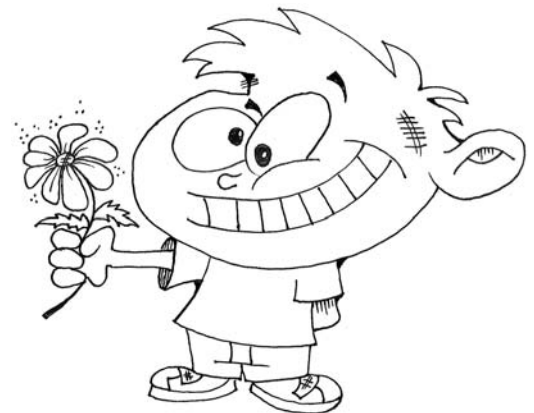
Often the smallest detail makes the biggest impression. Wild flowers on a table, small table gifts, background music, greeters and other thoughtful gestures make guests feel welcome, special and pampered.

Practice Christian Hospitality

Help guests grow in their understanding of the Lord. Everyone should be giving affection and receiving love from other Christians in the family of God. Maintain friendly conversations.

Set Realistic Goals

What do you want to happen during the hours guests are with you? Be specific! Plans in this workbook are complete. Adapt details to fit your needs. Add creative ideas and change activities as desired.



Organize

Make changes at the beginning of the planning process. Write down exactly what will happen and when jobs must be completed. Do not leave organization to the last minute.

Team Work

The leadership team may be as few as two or as large as ten or more. Divide assignments between team members. Trust them to complete their tasks. While specific jobs may be divided, one person should be in charge to keep the whole affair moving smoothly.

Purchase Supplies As Needed

Stay within the banquet budget. Keep expense records. Use the church tax exemption number.

Practice A Positive Approach

Maintain a light and happy atmosphere. If your attitude is right, your planning team will catch the spirit. After all, this is a party!

Pray!

Pray for the event, the team and the guests. Pray as a team. Take each detail before the Lord and then – Relax!

Prepare!

Provide adequate time to set up tables, decorations, props and food. Reserve the church for the entire day. Room arrangements can take place a day before the party.



Say Thank You

The behind-the-scenes team is the core of this event. Take time to write thank you notes, call and give small thank you gifts. Recognize the team publically.

Clean Up

When the event is over, clean up begins. The party is not complete until the church is in order. Encourage the team to remove their personal items immediately. Stay to help with kitchen clean up.

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Delightful Guest Speaker

*"I will boast of all His kindness to me."
~ Psalm 34:2*

Invite A Speaker

Invite a guest to share inspirational thoughts. When scheduling a speaker, eliminate program segments this event provides that are best performed by the audience guests themselves. The special speaker should conclude the evening festivities.

The Perfect Person

A good speaker makes a faith connection with the group. Choose the speaker from a list of possibilities suggested by friends, relatives, pastor, other churches, community groups or national organizations. The speaker can be someone from your group.

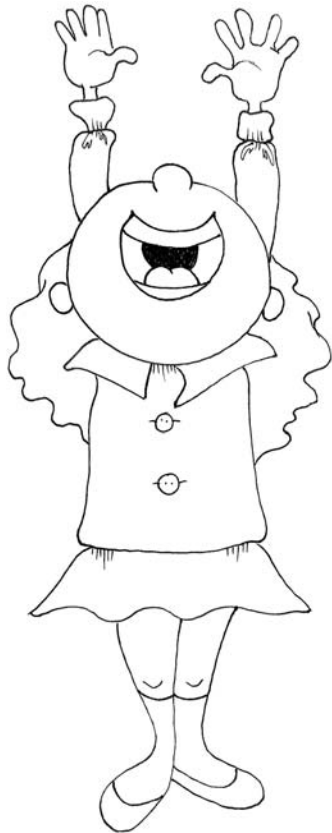
Consider The Cost

Ask the speaker if there is a set fee. If not, give a generous monetary gift including traveling costs. Think about the time they invest in preparation, travel and presentation.

Specific Instructions

Send a letter, make a telephone call and stay in contact through the internet. Include highway directions, arrival time, group size, time limit, lodging information and specific personal details.

Communicate the program theme. Include details of what the talk should feature. Make personal contact periodically until the speaker travels to the event.



Care and Feeding

It is disquieting for a guest speaker to enter a room of strangers, speak about personal and spiritual issues and leave still feeling as if everyone is a stranger.

Provide a pre-arranged hostess "friend" who handles introductions, sits with and converses with the guest at dinner and gives that person a sense of belonging.

Include expenses from the time the speaker leaves home until the event is done. If more meals are required, host or pay accordingly.

After The Banquet

Pay promptly. Stay with the guest until their departure. Thank that person from your heart. Follow up with a handwritten thank you note!

Notes:

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Publicity!

*“He that handles a matter wisely shall find good:
and whoever trusts in the Lord, Happy is he.”*

Proverbs 16:20



Let's face it, you need enthusiastic guests. Do your best to convince them it will be a unique experience in fine dining and entertainment. They must not miss it! Go the extra mile to publicize.

It's All About Details

Invitations, posters, registration forms, programs, handouts and centerpieces should relate to the theme. Use the same colors, scripture, picture or logo on every piece of publicity.

Invite Every Gal!

Send invitations. If a community wide event is desired, place posters in local restaurants, business offices. Insert invitations in the weekly worship folder and in the monthly church newsletter.

Don't forget...One of the best places to put posters is in the Ladies Room at church and in community businesses. If a local business hesitates to put yet another community event poster in their window, suggest their ladies room as a great "out of the way" place!



Create Buzz!

Involve lots of people in the planning stages. They don't have to be on the planning team. Delegate tasks or small speaking parts. Ask as many people as possible to participate in the formal program.

Everyone who participates will attend and will be more likely to talk about the event and invite others. Many hands make light work.

Cut stress with more help.

Even More Fun!

Award prizes and give gifts for various games. Enjoy the company of friends.

Be Creative!

If the banquet is around Mother's Day, advertise the event to men of the church that the banquet cost is a great Mother's Day gift they can give their wives and mothers and daughters. Find creative ways to make your banquet a "gift" to women and girls who want to attend.

Notes:



Decorate... Do What You Love! You Are So Beautiful...To Me!

The Amen of Nature is Always a Flower!
~ Oliver Wendell Holmes

“Whatever is ... lovely~ think about such things.”
~Philippians 4:8

A Little Glitter Never Hurt Anyone!

Create a bright, daisy world! Guests walk into a decorated space filled with flowers, light and color. Discuss decoration at the beginning of the planning process. Trust your own amazing creativity. Choose the best of our ideas to get started.

Add your own creativity and leave the rest.

Plant your own daisies and decorate your own soul
Instead of waiting for someone else
to bring you flowers.

Artistic, visually creative people take the responsibility to turn the room into a work of art. If there is no team, decorate simply at each table. You cannot go wrong! Make it fun!

What Should Be Decorated?

Decorate tables with live or silk daisy center pieces and color coordinated garden items. Consider decorating the welcome table, entry door, stage and corners.



Tasteful Elegance

Less is more. Choose unique accessories to make the tables and room sparkle. Do not clutter the area with an overabundance of 'stuff'.



I Decorate With Daisies. What's your Super Power?

From table decorations to cheerful displays, the entire room should feature daisies. Individual events will look different depending upon available items.

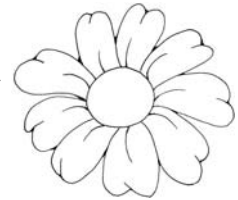
*The best fun happens when guests arrive and the daisy theme comes to life with table elegance, games, speakers, prizes and music!
Let guests view all table decorations before they are seated.*

'Tis A Gift To Be Simple

Keep it simple. The result is a delight to the eye. Become familiar with the available space. Use color, sparkle and light to best advantage.

Daisy Table Ideas

Daisies are a humble, lovely flower in a variety of colors. Decide which daisy color is most appealing and stick with that.



Colors: Choose coordinating colors for a basic foundation. Consider bright yellow table covering and white daisies with yellow centers. Or, mix a few pastel daisy colors with white, ivory or pastel coverings. Other colors that make the theme come to life: lime green, salmon, neon pink, lavender, orange.

Tip: White table coverings, yellow place mats, yellow polka dotted napkins!



Printed programs: Print program covers using a complimentary color. Create your own printed information based on local event details. Each place setting features a program placed near the plate.

*Add sparkle with candles, balloons,
crystal glasses and color coordinated napkins.*

Beautiful Touches: Catch the eye and bring a smile with small touches of detail: Antique garden tools, garden gloves, candles in crystal glasses, butterflies or other available items. Shop for daisy stickers on Google!

More Fun: Add one silk daisy to the top of each napkin setting. For a touch of whimsy wrap a beaded stretch bracelet around the napkin with a narrow yellow ribbon bow on the bracelet. Serve lemonade with white straws and yellow daisies stuck in the straws.

*Ladybugs! Small, cute, red.
Add them to the table and artwork whenever possible.*

Forget Clutter: Choose items sparingly. Don't try to do it all on each table.

.....
~ Secret Internet Tip ~

Google 'daisy table decorations'. Click on 'images'.

An amazing array of visual ideas pop up.

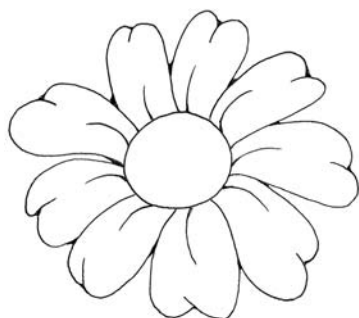
*Guaranteed! There will be one or more wonderful table ideas
for you to fall in love with immediately!*

.....

Choose the full event decoration style before gathering items. From casual garden to daisies with burlap accessories to formal elegant crystal, your choice will be delightful!



The Middle: Everything's Coming Up Daisies!



Feature live daisies. Wrap a container in yellow fabric tied with a wide, flowing yellow ribbon. Clear, plain mason jars make wild flowers come to life. If live daisies are not an option, purchase silk daisies at a local dollar/discount store.

Centerpiece containers can be anything from metal buckets to ceramic bowls to white boxes wrapped in wide ribbon to garden baskets. Daisies look beautiful in large mason jars wrapped in twine.

Whoa! "Oo-Ah" Factor!

For Sure: In clear glass containers, feature whole lemons or clean, smooth river rocks under water.

Tuck daisies into the underwater base.

Maybe? Add one or two goldfish to clear glass bowls with daisies floating on surface.

Give them a good home after the banquet!

Contemporary Stunner: Arrange three tall, square or rectangle clear glass vases. Spray paint tree twigs white and place them in the vases. Add one large Gerbera Daisy with water to each vase. Option: Attach one or two silk butterflies to one of the twigs.

Balloon Blast: Color coordinated balloons fly high from each table. The entire room comes to life. Fill the floor with yellow and white balloons. Don't worry, floor balloons move aside easily as people walk. The more balloons on the floor, the better effect.

Dessert Tower: Small, round layer cakes, frosted white and decorated with silk daisies become delightful centerpiece desserts. The cakes should serve the people seated at each table. Add yellow marshmallow 'Peeps' (facing outward) around the edges of the cake! Include one cake server with a yellow bow.

Notes:



Banquet Room

The tables are the featured 'stars' of the room.
Add accessories as available.

Program Props

*See program segments
for prop information.
Sometimes nothing is needed.*

Daisies! Plants!
Butterflies! Lady Bugs!
Bunnies!



Stage: Place floor plants behind the speaker's podium. Two large palms or trees or live floor plants work well. No large plants? Place two tall, narrow plant stands behind the podium and for leafy ferns.

Tuck daisies into the plants. Scatter silk butterflies or lady bugs with clips on the plants or add yellow ribbon bows. Bunnies and daisies are the perfect mix! On the stage, on tables or given as gifts, feature bunnies with yellow bows (plush and ceramic and stone).

Lighting: Light the large plants from the floor with white twinkle lights or small spotlights.

Daisy Bouquets

Make large, silk daisy bouquets that include daisies, white roses, pearls, ribbon and light greens. Tie with ribbons and place in baskets on stands near the staging areas.



Photo Booth

Give guests an opportunity to make a memory of a fun event. Set up a scene where photographs are taken. May choose to participate or just watch the fun unfold before and after the program.

Decorate a simple background. Place chairs or a garden bench in the scene.

Gather anything crazy and fun to wear. Collect flowers, garden hats, long necklaces, gloves, sunglasses and scarves.

Photographer: Ask one person to take digital pictures. Guests have their pictures taken alone or in family and friend groupings of their choice. They can choose whatever items they want to wear. Make photos available as desired. Guests may use their own cameras and cell phones.

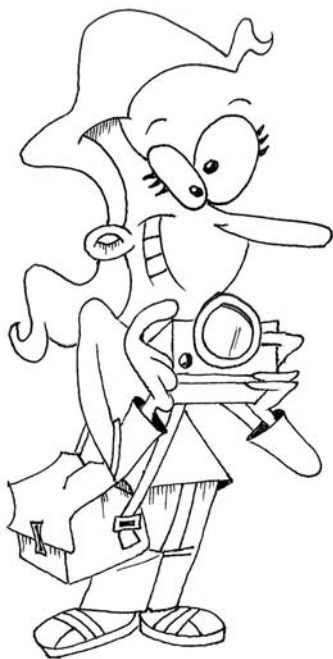
Then...

LISTEN TO THE LAUGHTER AND SEE THE SMILES!!!

So Fun!

Notes:

“Always have something beautiful in sight,
even if it’s just a daisy in a jelly glass.”



Art Supplies, Decorations, Small Gifts

Shopping! Craft and party stores, discount stores and rummage shops. Make table decorations, programs and table gifts.

Check the internet for affordable, interesting items.

Creative Table Favor: One small terra cotta pot filled with candy and a daisy seed packet tucked in the top. Trim the pot with ribbon that coordinates with the event colors.

Daisy seed packets can be purchased locally. Online, cost friendly options are available in bulk.

www.weddingpackets.com

www.botanicalpaperworks.com

www.americanmeadows.com

www.seedsoflife.com

Door Prizes: Ask businesses and restaurants to donate small gifts or gift cards. Buy dollar items: picture frames, note holders, lamps, cosmetic bags, pill organizers, key chains, potted plants, candles and costume jewelry. Offer fun gifts for the littlest gals...stuffed animals, coloring books or fingernail polish!

Put everyone's banquet ticket in a bowl.

Draw tickets at random.

Winners choose a gift

*OR the gifts can be numbered
and given away in order of the drawing.*

Award table centerpieces (as desired) to one person with a sticker under their chair or plate. This could be determined by another method...oldest person, most children, dressed in yellow, etc.



Catalog Stuff

Check out Oriental Trading Company. They offer a wide variety of wonderful gifts, decorations and supplies!
www.orientaltrading.com

Gifts and accessories also available at www.currentcatalog.com

Check out fun decorations at: www.Shindigz.com

Don't forget deals on www.ebay.com and www.amazon.com

More Online/Catalog Ideas:

“God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change; courage to change the things I can; and the wisdom to love daisies.”

~With apologies to Reinhold Niebuhr



Stepping In Fun-shine....

Upsy Daisy A Daisy Delight!

Bless the Food before us,
the Family & Friends beside us
and the Love between us.



Amen



Consider crowd psychology. No one enjoys going to a party where everyone remains a stranger, little conversation occurs and a subdued mood becomes awkward. Everyone enjoys an event where people are talking and laughing, light and temperature is controlled, music sets the mood, strangers are just new friends and tables are inviting.

“Let’s Get This Party Started!”

Greet guests cordially, attach Daisy name tags and direct them to the party area. Encourage guests to browse around the room as the crowd gathers. Help them find their assigned table. Point out rest rooms and conveniences.

Keep guests out of the kitchen!!!



“Getting To Know You!
Getting To Know All About You!”

Get acquainted with simple table activities. Place conversation starters under plates. Scatter pens and place paper puzzles or short games in obvious places so guests can work together to win a table prize.

“Come on People Now, Get Together!
Try To Love One Another...Right Now!”

Help the guests “sense the whole”. Enthusiastic group singing encourages togetherness. Play a few table games as ice breakers. This is the time for generous hospitality and smiles.

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Big Friendships Often Have Small Beginnings!

Place guests in small groups. Offer opportunities to make intimate contact with table friends. Devise activities that can be done in pairs or fours.

Enjoy The Journey!

Mix interactive and quiet activities. Some activities should require a mental challenge with pencil and paper, group skits and sometimes activities for the whole group. You choose what your group does best!



A Good Beginning Makes a Good Ending!

Complete group activities before dinner and continue the fun after the meal. Add spiritual and inspirational thoughts near the end.

“Goodbye, Farewell, Amen!”

Conclude the event with a whole group activity. Consider singing, listening to a story, letting people share what they enjoyed. Present an inspirational spiritual closing with a serious skit or talk, songs, hymns, praise choruses, sharing and a benediction featuring a friendship prayer circle.

“This Place Isn’t Going To Clean Itself!”

Leave the church cleaner than you found it. Often those enjoying the fun are willing to help clean up. That can be fun and don’t forget, “Many hands make light work”.

*Tip: Keep the music playing during clean up.
Take a moment to sing and dance with other workers!*

*“Nobody’s last words were
‘I had too much fun.’ ”
~ Evelyn Beilenson*



Good Things Are Going To Happen...

Welcome!

*“He who is of a merry heart
has a continual feast.”
Proverbs 15:15b*

Serve chilled punch as guests gather, coats are removed and table seating is confirmed.

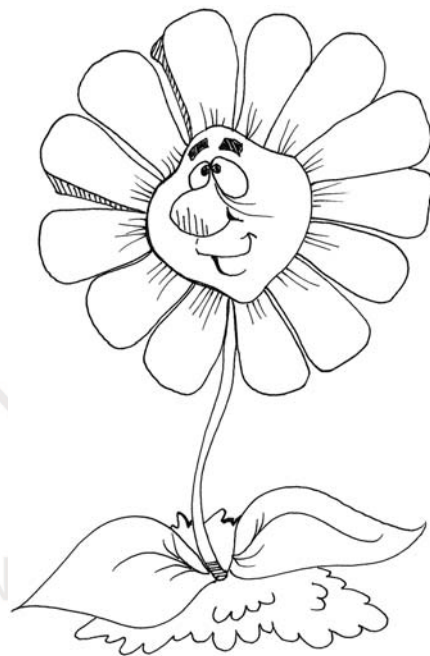
Welcome guests by serving delicious beverages in crystal punch bowls with crystal cups. Consider serving mini appetizers on daisy paper plates. Add bright yellow beverage napkins.

Play soft background music as guests arrive.
Enter the banquet area
to enjoy table decorations and staged displays.

Yellow Daisy Punch

1 can frozen lemonade concentrate
2 ½ cans water 2 liter Sprite
1 container of orange sherbet

1. In a pitcher, combine lemonade concentrate and cans of water.
2. Freeze for about 4 hours until slushy.
3. In the pitcher, add lemons and thick layer of sherbet.
4. Pour Sprite over top of sherbet and stir just a bit so it gets nice and frothy on top.
5. Serve immediately



Appetizers

Because guests may be standing while juggling a beverage and appetizer, prepare finger foods. Use one of our suggestions or create your own appetizer. Choose appetizers that fit your group.

Fresh Fruit 'Cupcake'

Choose a variety of fresh fruits cut into small portions placed in a miniature paper cup. The best fruit can be picked up with fingers for easy eating. Include a mixture of apple slice, cherry, diced cantaloupe, mini pineapple slice, banana, strawberries, blueberries.

Yummy Fruit Dip: 8 oz. Whipped Topping, 3 oz. Cream cheese, 7 oz. Marshmallow creme. Spoon into bottom of liner and fill with fruit.

Nuts And Bolts Party Mix

2 C. Corn Chex 2 C. Rice Chex 2 C. Cheerios
2 C. Thin pretzels 2 C. Blanched peanuts
3 T. Salad oil 10 T. Butter 4 T. Worcestershire Sauce
½ t. seasoned salt ½ t. garlic powder

Oven: 225 degrees In baking dish, mix cereals, pretzels, peanuts; set aside. On medium head blend oil, butter, sauce, salt, garlic until butter is melted and spices are blended in. Pour seasoning mixture over cereal mixture and stir until completely coated with seasoning.

Bake 1 ½ hours, stirring every 20 minutes to make sure it does not burn. Remove from oven and cool completely before storing in an airtight container. Fill clear plastic cups with individual portions before guests arrive.

Crunchy Veggie Treat

Cut mini celery, cucumber slices, broccoli, cauliflower, asparagus, dilly beans and carrot sticks that fit into doubled cupcake liners. Spoon Ranch Dip into the liners before placing veggies on top. Choose veggies that can be cut into small pieces for easy dipping.



Ham and Turkey Roll Ups

Roll deli ham and turkey and place upright in ranch dip with parsley or celery tops for garnish.

Shrimp

Spoon cocktail sauce into liner and place one shrimp on top. Option: For children, consider one chicken nugget on top of ketchup.

Fish Stick

Tartar sauce and one fish stick cut in half with carrot stick and mini dill pickle slice.

Mexican Fun

Fill cup with refried beans, shredded lettuce, diced tomatoes and top with sour cream. No spoon, just dip with the taco chips.

Pretzel Fun

Mini pretzels with mustard sauce.

Boneless Wings

Spoon a little bit of BBQ Sauce into mini paper cup and top with one or two boneless chicken wings.

Chili Cups

Spoon Chili into small plastic cups and top with two Ritz Crackers. Sour cream on top.

To find more appetizers online, simply Google 'appetizers'.

Have a wonderful time choosing something different
and creative in the perfect color!



Meals and Memories...

A Daisy Dinner Delight!

"Happiness is like jam: You can't spread even a little without getting some on yourself."

"Jesus said, 'I Am the Bread of Life, whoever comes to Me shall not hunger and whoever believes in Me will never be thirsty.'"

John 6:35

The menu is an important banquet event detail. Choose food your group enjoys and will remember fondly! Read these suggestions but you know your group best. **Plan Accordingly!**

It doesn't seem fair to ask the women and girls to cook their own party food. Ask the men to cook and serve or consider hiring local caterers! Ask a local Boy Scout troop to help serve the meal. They often look for community projects.

What Should We Eat?

Many food options are delicious and appropriate. Consider the cost, the theme, the effort involved to make the food and traditional group tastes.

Create a separate menu for children under age 12. Let people know the choices when they make their reservations.

Ask about food allergies or special menu needs when guests register for the event.



Chicken

Tossed Salad/Dressing
Cream of Broccoli Soup
Baked Stuffed Chicken Breast
Mashed Potatoes
Vegetable of Choice
Cornbread Muffins/Butter
Dessert: Cupcakes

Pork

Tossed Salad/Dressing
Won Ton Soup
Roast Pork or Stuffed Pork Chops
Rice Pilaf
Vegetable of Choice
Muffins/Butter
Dessert: Gingerbread and Whipped Cream

Beef

Tossed Salad/Dressing
Beef Broth Vegetable Soup W/Shredded Cheese
Swiss Steak and Mushroom Gravy
Hot Buttered Noodles
Vegetable of Choice
Cornbread Muffins/Butter
Dessert: Pie and Ice Cream **or** Lemon Meringue Pie

Fish

Tossed Salad/Dressing
French Onion Soup W/Cheese
Light White fish: Haddock and Tartar Sauce
Baked Potato With Sour Cream and Butter
Vegetable of Choice
Dinner Rolls/Butter
Dessert: Orange Sherbet

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**Fluffy Pink Lemonade Pie
(With Pretzel Crust)**

Crust: 2 Cups broken pretzels (about 4 oz)
1/4 cup sugar
½ cup butter or margarine, melted

Topping: 1 package (8 oz) cream cheese
2 boxes (4 serving size each) white chocolate instant pudding and pie
filling mix
1 can (12 oz) frozen pink lemonade concentrate, thawed
2 or 3 drops red food color
1 container (8 oz) frozen whipped topping thawed

Garnish: Lemon slices, cut into fourths

350 degree oven. Crush pretzels and sugar in food processor, drizzle melted butter and mix well. Press crust in ungreased baking dish. Bake 5-8 minutes until golden brown. Cool completely.

Cream cheese in large bowl, microwave until well softened. Stir until smooth. Beat dry pudding mix into cream cheese with mixer until well mixed. Add lemonade concentrate and food color. Beat low speed until mixed. Beat 2 minutes until fluffy. Gently stir in 2 cups of whipped topping until smooth. Spread over crust. Spread remaining whipped topping over lemonade mixture. Refrigerate until set. Cut into squares.

Garnish with lemon.

Strawberry Delight

Make an angel food cake and add fresh strawberries and real whipping cream. Garnish with Cut Strawberry!



Flower Shaped Cookies and Ice Cream

Make your favorite sugar cookie cut in the shape of large flowers. Frost with yellow and white frosting. Depending on cookie sizes, serve one or two on a yellow or green dessert plate with vanilla ice cream.



Strawberry Ice Cream

Serve strawberry ice cream in a small glass bowl. Top with real strawberries and a silk daisy flower head tucked into the side.

Strawberry Cheesecake

Make your favorite cheesecake recipe and use strawberries as the fruit of choice topping.

Cupcakes

Bake your favorite cupcakes in colorful liners, frost with white icing and top with daisy silk flower.

Cherry Jello Dessert

Make cherry jello and add fruit with a whipped topping.

There are many wonderful dessert recipes on the internet.
Simply Google 'desserts' and bake your choice!

Notes:



Children's Menu Choices

Sometimes children do not enjoy the delicious foods adults anticipate eating. Consider an optional Children's Dinner Menu offered at a lesser cost.

Children's Menu #1

Chicken Nuggets W/Ketchup
Jello Cubes French Fries
Cold Drink Dessert



Children's Menu #2

Hamburger on Toasted Bun W/Ketchup and Pickle
Macaroni and Cheese Celery Sticks
Apple Slices Cold Drink Dessert

Children's Menu #3

Hot Dog on Bun - Choice of Toppings
Tater Tots Fruit Cup
Cold Drink Dessert

*“Trust in the Lord and do good;
so shall you dwell in the land
and truly you shall be fed.”*

Psalm 37:2



Crazy Daisy Food Ideas

*What fun to create an event with lots of daisies.
From beginning to end,
think of reasons to make the group smile.*

Breakfast Brunch Buffet

Yes! A breakfast brunch! Use the daisy theme for simple dishes. Consider Egg and Ham with Cheese casseroles, fresh fruit cups and french toast and sausage with syrup.

Just Desserts



If your program is an elegant after dinner evening, consider using every dessert desired. From chocolate to spice to apple to whatever your group dreams up will be an event your gals will love.

Mug And Muffin

An afternoon gathering for tea and coffee and delicious muffins is popular. Consider making several delicious muffin recipes and offering creative toppings to try: honey, real butter, peanut butter, cream cheese and others. Add sweet cupcakes for dessert.

Picnic Lunch

Everyone loves a casual picnic. Spring and summer events are delightful when held outdoors with a full menu featuring foods in wicker baskets and fresh flowers in mason jars or large glass vases.



Daisy Cakes!

Bake a variety of cakes. Top with silk daisies, miniature ceramic birds, butterflies, lady bugs, bunnies or sprinkles. Decide whether the cakes will be homemade or provided by a local bakery with that professional touch of frosting and decoration.

Healthy Options

Angel food cake topped with strawberries or a small dish of fresh fruit is a good option for those who may suffer from specific health risks.

Find out before the event if this option is necessary. Sometimes guests just say 'no thank you'.

Notes:

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Music...

The Earth SINGS In Daisies! Sing Along!

*“Sing unto the Lord a new song!”
~ Psalm 147:1*

Make Music Happen!

Play pre recorded background music as guests arrive. Non vocals are best when mixed with party conversation: Christian CD's, Broadway show tunes, classical music, soft jazz or Disney music.

If your community has amateur/professional musicians willing to perform, ask them to be part of the festivities. Think about asking a violinist, guitarist, harpist, pianist or ensemble (string quartet) to perform as guests arrive and as they enjoy dinner.

Sing fun songs and familiar Christian choruses after dinner. Sprinkle music throughout the program whenever you desire.

Ask a pianist to accompany the group.

Choose familiar songs.

Print lyrics in a printed program.

Praise and Worship Songs

Choose contemporary Praise and Worship songs that are familiar and popular with your group. Consider the hymn “In The Garden”!

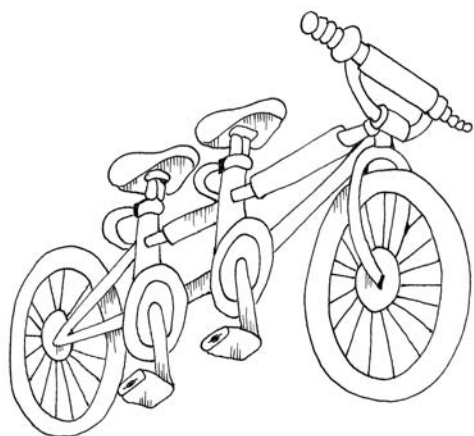
Musical Talent

Invite one or more people to sing or play instruments during the formal program. Insert their music randomly as a special treat.



Group Song Suggestions

Here are lyrics to familiar song melodies. Sheet music can be purchased online or, if the tune is familiar, may be sung a capella. Check www.musicnotes.com for piano sheet music at a good price.



Daisy, Daisy

*Use this song as part of the program.
The history of the song is told.*

Daisy, Daisy, Give me your answer, do!
I'm half crazy, All for the love of you!
It won't be a stylish marriage...
I can't afford a carriage,
But you'll look sweet
On the seat
Of a bicycle built for two!

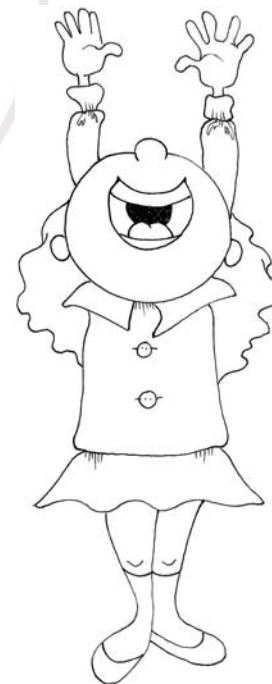
On The Sunny Side Of The Street

Grab your coat and get your hat
Leave your worries on the doorstep
Life can be so sweet
On the sunny side of the street.

Can't you hear the pitter-pat
And that happy tune is your step
Life can be complete
On the sunny side of the street.

I used to walk in the shade
With my blues on parade
But I'm not afraid-this rover's crossed over.

If I never had a cent
I'd be rich as Rockefeller
Gold dust at my feet
On the sunny side of the street.



April Showers

Life is not a highway strewn with flowers,
Still it holds a goodly share of bliss.
When the sun gives way to April showers
Here is the point you should never miss....



Chorus: Though April showers may come your way,
They bring the flowers that bloom in May.
So if it's raining, have no regrets,
Because it isn't raining rain, you know,
It's raining violets.

And where you see clouds upon the hills,
You soon will see crowds of daffodils.

So keep on looking for a blue bird
And listening for his song,
Whenever April showers come along.

Tiptoe Through The Tulips
Tip toe through the window
By the window, that is where I'll be
Come tiptoe through the tulips with me.

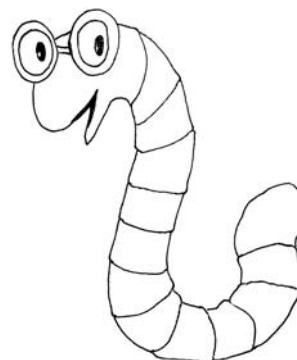
Oh, tiptoe from the garden
By the garden of the willow tree
And tiptoe through the tulips with me.

Knee deep in flowers we'll stray
We'll keep the showers away.
And if I kiss you in the garden, in the moonlight
Will you pardon me?
And tiptoe through the tulips with me. *(Repeat)*



Glow Worm

Glow little glow worm, glimmer, glimmer
Glow little glow worm, glimmer, glimmer
Lead us lest too far we wander
Love's sweet voice is calling yonder
Glow little glow worm, glimmer, glimmer
Hey, there don't get dimmer, dimmer
Light the path below, above
And lead us on to love!

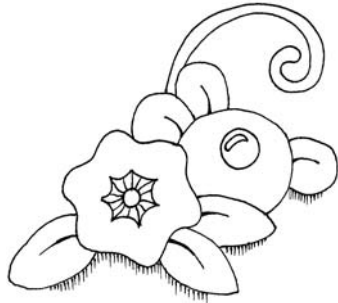


Glow little glow worm, fly of fire
Glow like an incandescent wire
Glow for the female of the species
Turn on the AC and the DC
This night could use a little brightnin'
Light up you little ol' bug of lightnin'
When you gotta glow, you glow
Glow little glow worm glow

Put On A Happy Face

Gray skies are gonna clear up,
Put on a happy face,
Brush off the clouds and cheer up,
Put on a happy face.
Take off the gloomy mask of tragedy,
It's not your style;
You'll look so good that you'll be glad
you decided to smile.
Pick out a pleasant outlook,
Stick out that noble chin;
Wipe off that 'full of doubt' look,
Slap on a happy grin.
And spread sunshine all over the place!
Just put on a happy face!





He's The Lily Of The Valley

I have found a friend in Jesus, He's everything to me,
He's the fairest of ten thousand to my soul;
The Lily of Valley, in Him alone I see
All I need to cleanse and make me fully whole:
In sorrow He's my comfort, in trouble He's my stay;
He tells me ev'ry care on Him to roll:
He's the Lily of the Valley, the Bright and Morning Star,
He's the fairest of ten thousand to my soul.

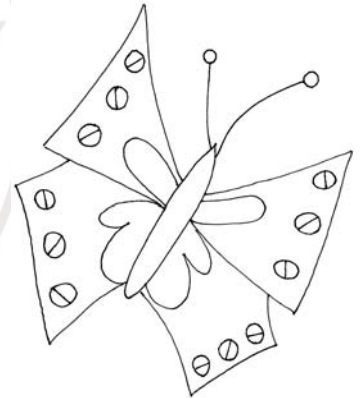
May The Good Lord Bless and Keep You

May the Good Lord bless and keep you,
whether near or far away.
May you find that long awaited golden day today.
May your troubles all be small ones,
and your fortune ten times ten,
May the good Lord bless and keep you
till we meet again.

May you walk with sunlight shining,
and a bluebird in ev'ry tree,
May there be a silver lining
back of ev'ry cloud you see.

Fill your dreams with sweet tomorrows,
Never mind what might have been,

May the good Lord bless and keep you till we meet again,
May the good Lord bless and keep you till we meet again.



Song List:

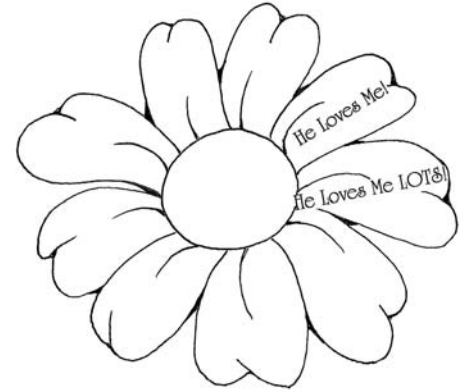


Make A Memory

Keepsake Program

*“I will go pick daisies
and have a happy heart!”*

Make a “take home” printed keepsake.
Include order of events, songs, poems, pictures!
While not necessary, it is a nice addition.

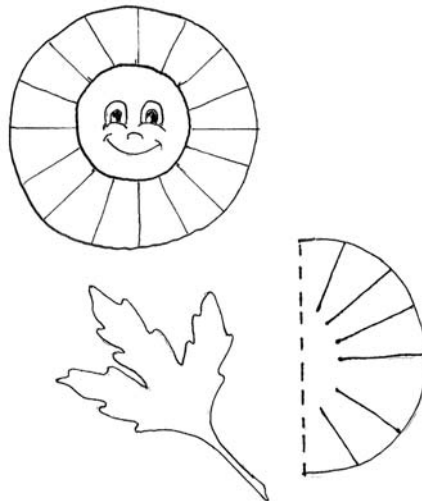


Cover

Yellow card stock! Make copies on the church printer/copier. Feature a simple daisy graphic and the name of the banquet. A nice 3 D attachment is a white daisy made of paper. Think about adding a silk daisy ‘head’ glued onto the cover with a small bow.

Trim

Consider white paper daisies with real buttons glued to the center—any color. Cut white circles of any size. Cut straight lines toward the center and curl each petal.



Printed Information

Include the menu, committee members, kitchen crew and servers. Add song lyrics, artistic touches, poetry, Bible verses and the title of each program segment.

Be Creative!

This is an opportunity to create a lovely keepsake to be treasured in scrapbooks and memory trunks for many years. Take time to design a piece of art worthy of the occasion.

Notes:

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Welcome The Guests...



Upsy Daisy! A Delightful Daisy Spring Banquet

BE HAPPY!
IT DRIVES
PEOPLE
CRAZY!

Seat guests informally at prearranged tables.
Be sure families and friends sit together.

Encourage guests to get to know
on another by playing table games.
Guests may team up to answer the questions.

Furnish small prizes for each successful group.
Prizes may be Hershey Kisses,
Mini candy bars or other tiny treat.

Give the prizes to the guests as they win.
Secret: Let EVERYONE win at least once!

Use these table games
or find games your group enjoys.
Copy as many desired on colorful paper.

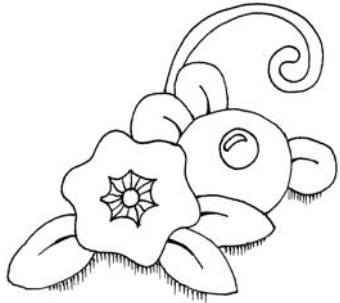


I've Never!

The object of the game is to help people get to know one another better. As in all great games, the winner is determined by eliminating everyone. To play, have everyone at the table hold up ten fingers. Start at random and work around the table by having each person share something they have never done (i.e. "I have never worked at a restaurant".) Whoever HAS worked at a restaurant has to put one finger down. The game is played until everyone is eliminated except for one person. Several rounds can be played with no repeats allowed.

Flower Scramble

- | | |
|---------------|-----|
| 1. FODFLIAD | 1. |
| 2. ORES | 2. |
| 3. PPYOP | 3. |
| 4. WLOUSNEFR | 4. |
| 5. TCAONRINA | 5. |
| 6. ILYL | 6. |
| 7. TLUOS | 7. |
| 8. SIDYA | 8. |
| 9. UTPIL | 9. |
| 10. NIOLDEDNA | 10. |
| 11. IHROCD | 11. |
| 12. NAGRDEYAH | 12. |
| 13. YANSP | 13. |
| 14. OLEVTI | 14. |
| 15. RISI | 15. |



FLOWER SCRAMBLE ANSWERS:

1. DAFFODIL
2. ROSE
3. POPPY
4. SUNFLOWER
5. CARNATION
6. LILY
7. LOTUS
8. DAISY
9. TULIP
10. DANDELION
11. ORCHID
12. HYDRANGEA
13. PANSY
14. VIOLET
15. IRIS

Tray Game

Place common items on a large tray. Cover the tray with a towel. Carry it to each table where the guests view the items for one minute. Cover the tray and move on. Their task is to write down as many of the items as possible in a numbered list. This can be accomplished as a table team or individually. Give a small prize to each winner.

Alphabet Name Game

Each guest prints the alphabet down the left side of a piece of paper. They choose one letter (ANY LETTER) of the alphabet to print next to the letter A. Whichever letter they choose, they continue to print the alphabet from that point, in order, to the end. Once they have their two letters side by side, the Alphabet Name Game begins.

Example: A E (Albert Einstein)

The game player thinks of a person, famous or non famous, who has those initials. They write the person's name next to the letter. Each full name is worth 1 point. The players with the most points win small prizes at the end. The most anyone can earn is 26 points, of course.



He Loves Me
He Loves Me LOTS!

Upsy Daisy!

Upsy

Daisy!

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He Loves Me
He Loves Me LOTS!



Tips For A Blooming Program!

GALS OF ALL AGES GET TO PARTICIPATE.
NO MEMORIZATION.
ADJUST MATERIAL AS DESIRED!

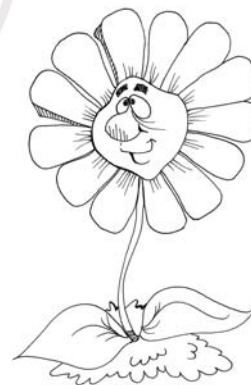
Make as many printed copies as needed
from the Master Copy.

If a guest speaker has been invited,
consider using a few segments instead of all of them.
Consider time limitations.

Encourage each participant to communicate clearly.
Provide microphones.

No rehearsal is necessary.
The participants follow directions
in their segment.
The program comes together on the spot.

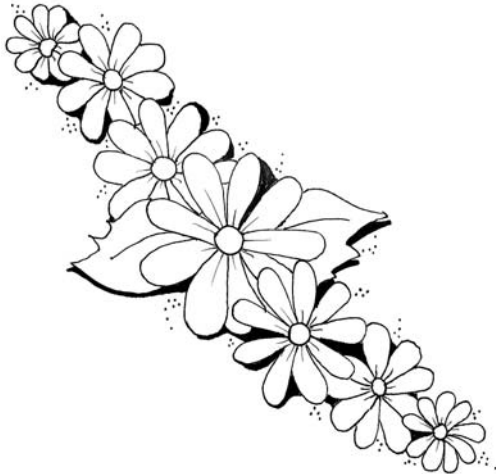
Confirm participation with each person
before the event.



“Upsy Daisy” is a blend of homespun wisdom,
sentimental memories, a touch of humor and inspiration.
Choose the best and enjoy the event.



Upsy Daisy At A Glance!



Daisy Welcome: Hor d'oeuvres
Background Music and Games

Pre Dinner Introduction: Simplicity Thy
Name Is Daisy

Upsy Daisy Banquet!
~Mmm, Delicious ~

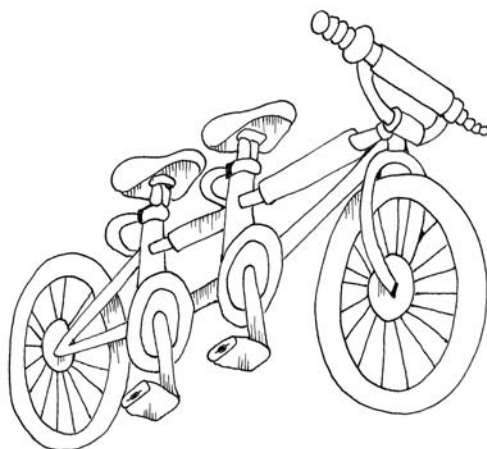
After Dinner Introduction: He Loves Me, He Loves Me LOTS!

- 1 Daisy Bell
2 How I Love The Daisy
3 Daisy Crowns
4 Once Upon a Daisy Chain
5 God Shows Off In Flowers
6 Let's Hear It For The Bugs
7 Daisies Coming Up Everything
8 Pushing Daisies
9 To Weed Or Not To Weed
10 Angels In My Garden

Conclusion: Upsy Daisy



Pre Dinner Introduction: Simplicity Thy Name Is Daisy



If you ask me what my favorite flower is, I will always say 'daisy'. You will say that they are simple and boring and I will say that I love them because of that. Because nothing in this world is simple anymore.

This is a "fresh as a daisy" evening of flowery fun and simple reminders of the joy of life through the short, lovely life of a flower. The Daisy. Of course, there are other 'daisies' we celebrate. Some girls have been given the beautiful name, 'Daisy'. There are delightful pets named Daisy. Walt Disney even made Daisy memorable when he introduced her to Donald Duck. Two ducks fell in love...and the rest is history!

We sing "Daisy, Daisy, give me your answer true...." The original name for the song is "Daisy Bell". It became a hit in 1892. It was written by Englishman Harry Dacre in the United States. There is an interesting story behind it. Harry came to the US in 1891 with his bicycle.

When he landed in New York, the customs officers made him pay a duty on his bicycle. He was outraged by this and complained about it to people for months.

One day a person replied to his complaint. "You're lucky it wasn't a bicycle built for two!" The phrase "Bicycle built for two" stuck in Dacre's mind. He wrote the song based on it. We still sing Harry's protest song though many only know the chorus.

Sing the Chorus: "Daisy, Daisy"

Daisy, Daisy, give me your answer do

I'm half crazy all for the love of you

It won't be a stylish marriage

I can't afford a carriage



But you'll look sweet upon the seat
Of a bicycle built for two.

More fun verses:

Ruby, Ruby, give me your answer true
Will you let me peddle along with you?
When you and I go cruisin'
You'll thank me for choosin'
You should come and have some fun
On a bicycle built for two.

Billy, Billy, give me your answer true
I love riding. Do you love it too?
Slow or fast or faster
You lead, I'll follow after
The path flies by as you and I
Ride a bicycle built for two.

And, of course, Daisy's famous answer:

Michael, Michael, here is your answer true.
I'm not crazy all for the love of you.
There won't be any marriage,
If you can't afford a carriage.
'Cause I'll be switched,
If I get hitched,
On a bicycle built for two!



After Dinner Introduction:

He Loves Me, He Loves Me LOTS!

"He loves me. He loves me **NOT**." It is a child's game but we take it very seriously. The sweet daisy petal game started long ago in France. One person tries to determine if the love of their life returns that affection ...or not.

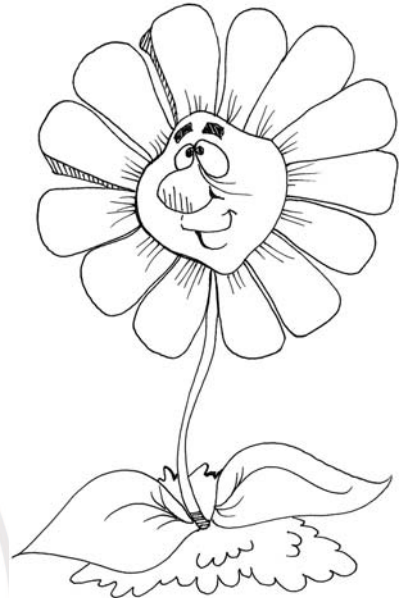
Just one person plays the game. "He loves me, he loves me NOT" is spoken aloud while picking one petal off a daisy for each phrase. (I'm not sure the daisy thinks much of this!) The very last petal is supposed to tell the truth. Is there true love? Is there no true love?

What a dreamy, whimsical way to spend a warm summer afternoon on a hillside. If there is disappointment, pick another daisy and try again. If true love is revealed with the last petal, smile and dream of other lovely days.

Let's take a look at a much better way to play the game: "He loves me. He loves me LOTS"! Now that is the way to play the daisy game. There are no losers or unloved players. Everyone wins.

Wait! Could there be another "He" involved in our daisy game? Could "He" be the One who loves us so much He never played the game? He just arrived and got to work loving us and giving His life for us. There are many who end up saying "I love you NOT" but not this one. In a million ways He reminds us that He loves us LOTS!

When God created daisies, He was just showing off. Let's turn things "Upsy Daisy" for a few minutes. Are you ready for some fun?

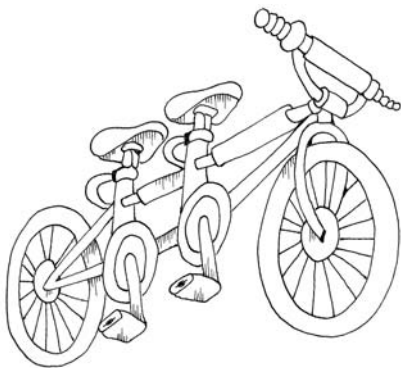


Young Girls

Daisy Bell

*Three girls carry a few
Disney plush characters and daisies.*

Girls sing together (a capella) skipping to the microphone:



*Daisy, Daisy give me your answer true
I'm half crazy all for the love of you.
It won't be a stylish marriage
I can't afford a carriage
But you'll look sweet
upon the seat
of a bicycle built for two.*

Girl #1: (Dreamily) I love that song!

Girl #2: (Dreamily) *Sigh* Me too!

Girl #3: (Hands on hips-with attitude) Not me!

Girl #2: Why? It's so sweet and old fashioned.

Girl #1: ...and I can remember all the words!

Girl #3: It's not loud like rock music or cool like jazz or crazy fun like hip hop. I LOVE to sing and dance! "Daisy, Daisy" is hard to dance to.

Girl #2: Daisy makes me smile. Smiling is good.

Girl #1: Two words....Daisy Duck! I just love her. I look at Daisy Duck and I know that love is in the air.



Girl #3: Daisy Duck! She will be lucky if Donald Duck even finds a bicycle built for two to offer her a ride.

Girl #1 and #2: *(Divide between two girls)* Listen to this little poem!

*What's Mickey without Minnie?
What's Tigger without Pooh?
What's Donald without **Daisy**?
What's me without you?*

*And when Elmo isn't ticklish,
And Pooh Bear hates honey,
When Tigger stops bouncing
And Goofy isn't funny.*

*When Peter Pan can't fly,
And Simba never roars,
When Alice In Wonderland
Can't fit through small doors.*

*When Dumbo's ears are small
And Happily Ever After isn't true,
That's when I'll stop loving you!*

Girl #3: Now that IS sweet. That is just like our friendship. It will last until we are very old women. Maybe I DO like the song "Daisy, Daisy".

Girl #1: Friends forever! We will still be girls – wrapped in wrinkles.

Girl #2: Friends forever! Daisies remind us to never stop loving each other.

Walk away arm in arm.

**"I was just sittin' here enjoyin' the company.
Plants got a lot to say if you take the time to listen."**

~Eeyore



How I Love The Daisy

*One or more young girls
Option: Dress them as daisies with garlands
or paper petals around their faces.*

Oh, how I love the daisy.
So simple and so sweet
Just sitting there without a care
And peering up at me.

Oh, how I love each petal
Glistening with dew
Begging to be plucked
And tell us who loves who.

Oh, how I love the daisy
It never makes me frown
And those who call it just a weed
Should get down on the ground

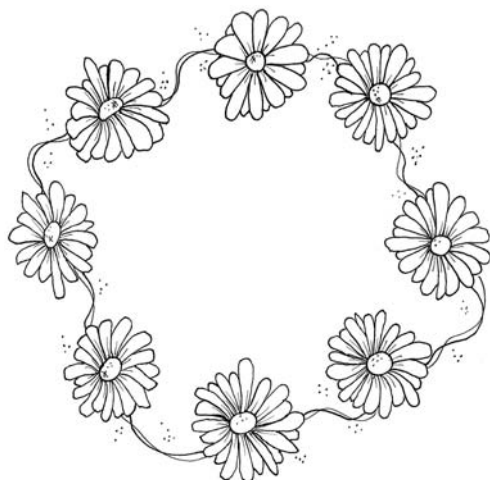
Take a look around you
Wherever there is grass
And see their pretty faces
Gazing up with mirth.

Watch the children playing
Daisy chains abound
See the little caterpillars
Lying on the ground

Oh, how I love the daisy
And hope you love it too
It's a very special flower
And it's calling out to you.

~Jossie





Daisy Crowns

Wear daisy garlands in hair.

The garlands may be artificial.

*Props: Small table, live, long stemmed daisies
for a daisy crown demonstration.*

(For easy directions: www.creativegreenliving.com)

**Complete several daisy crowns before the program
and wear them during the demonstration.**

#1: My grandmother wore hair nets to keep her silver hair neatly in place. As the nets wore out, Gram gave them to her granddaughters. On special evenings we wove garlands of daisies and wildflower for our hair. Our brothers would bring in a canning jar full of fireflies and tip them into Gram's hair nets, loosely fit over our fancy hairdos and garlands. We loved our twinkling tiaras for an evening of garden play.

#2: Every spring I forget how to make a daisy chain. I fumble around trying to twist the stems together and it always falls apart. I even took duct tape and a stapler to a field one day. This year I am determined to make myself a crown of flowers whenever I am in a field of daisies.

#3: Let's turn God's creation, the simple daisy, into a crown of daisies. These crowns are easy to make. If you can braid, you can make a daisy crown!

The first thing to do is pick an assortment of flowers with soft flexible stems. My favorite flowers are the daisies that grow in the grass in fields. Pick the stems as long as you can.

#1: Choose 3 daisies and braid their stems for about 1 inch.

#2: Add 1 daisy and continue to braid the new stem as you add more daisies.



#3: And that's all there is to it! Keep adding daisies and braiding stems closely together until your crown or bracelet or necklace is as long as you want it.

#2: An all daisy crown is beautiful but if colorful wild flowers are growing nearby, feel free to add them.

#1: Finish by tucking the last stem into the first stem and wear it like a true princess. Add a little bow or streaming ribbon if desired.

#2: The daisy crown reminds me that Jesus said we inherit crowns as His children.

#1: We are daughters of the King of Kings! I always wanted to be a princess. I was born to be a princess!

#2: Our daisy crowns remind us that we are Heaven bound with real crowns waiting for us.

#3: Isn't the Lord amazing to make such a simple lesson from a wild flower?

#1: We should practice our "princess wave" as long as we are wearing our daisy tiaras.

#2: Well, okay, but I'm not going to put bugs in my hair. Fireflies should be free to roam and enjoy the daisies in the field!

Wave and walk through the audience.



Once Upon A Daisy Chain

Daisies
small perfections,
white tips of nature
each one a star from God



Breeze dusts their golden daisy faces
as they search for the sky,
mute as the breath of angels
their voices still travel in beauty
calling to the birds, singing to the bees
they dance with the wind
'til chubby fingers lift their hearts
entwining them
into tiny circles
each chain a study of love
created to lie in drapes on cherubic arms
Transformed they become much more,
haloes of nature
a child's wish, a parent's hope,
small pockets of sunshine,
so much beauty in tiny amounts
on a green day.

Small links between the grass and play,
visible moments
of golden childhood,
intangible almost
they live on in the heart and memories
of once upon a daisy.

-Unknown



God Shows Off In Flowers

*“The flower does not think
of competing with the flower next to it.
It just blooms.”*

*One beautiful vase with a variety of flowers.
Divide speaking parts between available participants.*



#1: Let's pause from our 'daisy mania' to consider other flowers of the field. I believe God knew exactly WHEN to create flowers. Listen to this hint: *(Divide scripture between speakers.)*

“And God said, “Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear.” And it was so.

God called the dry ground ‘land’ and the gathered waters he called ‘seas.’ And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, “Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds.” And it was so. And God saw that it was good.

*And there was evening, and there was morning—the third day.”
(Genesis 1:9-13)*

#1: Each new day of creation depended on the prior days of creation. Flowers, plants and trees can't grow without **light** (Day 1), **water** (Day 2) and **air** (Day 2). Even on the third day, God had to create dry ground for the plants to grow before he created the plants. These first days made the environment for the rest of God's creation!

Not to mention, “all the flowers of all the tomorrows are in the seeds of today!” God was dreaming up 'daisies' before He created the very land where they would grow.



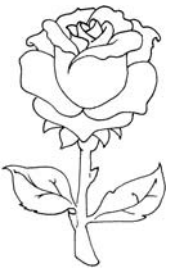
#2: TULIP: God created tulips that were so rare they created 'tulip mania' in Holland. The bulbs sold for more than 10 times the annual income of a skilled craftsman in 1637. Now that is an expensive Mother's Day bouquet! Tiptoe through the tulips with me: (Sing)

*Tip toe through the window
By the window, that is where I'll be
Come tiptoe through the tulips with me.*

*Oh, tiptoe from the garden
By the garden of the willow tree
And tiptoe through the tulips with me.*

*Knee deep in flowers we'll stray
We'll keep the showers away.
And if I kiss you in the garden, in the moonlight
Will you pardon me?
And tiptoe through the tulips with me. (Repeat)*

#3: ROSE: "A rose is a rose is a rose. Roses are red and violets are blue. Stop and smell the roses. Love planted a rose and the world turned sweet. When life throws thorns, hunt for roses. Every rose has it's thorn." I could go on and on with word pictures that poets, song writers and romantics have shared through the years. Someone once said, "I don't know whether nice people tend to grow roses or growing roses makes people nice."



Roses are the most beautifully 'dressed' flower in God's garden. There are over 100 varieties. Talk about God 'showing off'!

Grow them, cut them, perfume them. Even brewed in tea or used as make up creams, a fragrant rose is a woman's delightful choice. What card carrying female wouldn't love seeing a scattering of rose petals leading to a drawn bath and candles greeting her after a long day. No other flower will do!



#4: LILIES: *"Why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin" .*

(Matthew 6:28)

Someone loved lilies so much that they said, "When you have only two pennies left in the world, buy a loaf of bread with one and a lily with the other."

#5: BUTTERCUP: *"Chin up, Buttercup. Buck up, Buttercup. Cheer up, Buttercup. Buckle up, Buttercup. Pucker up, Buttercup."* We smile at word play with the tiny flower growing wild in fields far and wide.

Even songs are sung when we nickname a sweet love: *(Read lyrics, play youtube hit 1960's video by 'The Foundations' or sing the tune.)*

*Why would you build me up, buttercup
Just to let me down and mess me around
And then worst of all you never call,
When you say you will...but I love you still*

*I need you more than anyone, darlin'
You know that I have from the start
So build me up buttercup
Don't break my heart.*

"Build Me Up Buttercup"
~Tony Macaulay, Mike D'Abo, Songwriters

Children have long known that if you hold a little buttercup flower under your chin on a sunny day, the underside of your chin will be lit up with a yellow light. If it lights up, you like butter, of course!

Scientists as long ago as 1883 figured out how buttercups shape light to make this child's trick possible. It turns out that light on the buttercup flower petal hits two different glossy surfaces. That's not all! Our skin absorbs the light. So, most of us 'like butter'!



Suppose you have a meadow full of different flowers and each one wants to be pollinated by a bee. A bee has a lot of choices, so each one of the flowers tries to stand out in their own way. A buttercup can send a flash of light at a bee. This tiny spotlight of reflected yellow light flashes at the bee as it travels along its path or as the wind moves the flower. How clever of our Creator to feature a tiny buttercup amongst all the 'lilies of the field'!

#6: If you think God was showing off when He created the thousands of blossoming flowers, you haven't seen anything yet! God was really showing off when He made YOU!

There has never been another you. Like an expensive tulip, you are rare. Like a fragrant rose, you are an offering. Like a lily in the field, you are dressed to perfection. Like a buttercup, you are liked. Like a daisy, you are God's perfect wildflower and He loves you. He loves you LOTS!

Hand out flowers from the mixed bouquet
as you leave the stage.

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Let's Hear It For The Bugs!

*Divide speaking parts between available participants.
The jokes are best told quickly!*

#1: *(Dramatically)* A Poem About Bugs:

If it can fly
It should die.

#2: Wait just one minute! I love bugs. Ants, spiders, honey bees, butterflies, creepy crawly things, lady bugs. There is nothing like a bug to make my day. Appreciate the little things of life. Life is hard for bugs. And don't think mice are having any fun either!



It's time to lighten up the mood about bugs! Let's begin!

(One or two people may tell these jokes one after the other.)

Q. When is a baseball player like a spider?

A. When he catches a fly!

A man had a pet centipede. He said, "Centipede, go get the newspaper and make it snappy." A half an hour later the man went outside and said, "I thought I told you to get the paper a half an hour ago!" The centipede replied, "Well, I had to put on my shoes."

Q. Who comes to a picnic but is never invited?

A. Ants

Q. What alphabet letter can hurt you if it gets too close?

A. B (Bee)

Q. What do you call a snail on a ship?

A. A snailor!



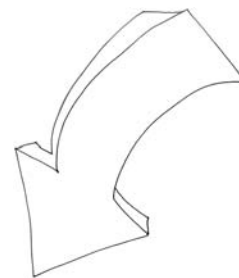
- Q. What is totally funny and makes dogs itch?
A. The Flea Stooges!
- Q. What do you call a rabbit with beetles all over it?
A. Bugs Bunny
- Q. What's worse than a worm in your apple?
A. Half a worm
- Q. What do you call two ants that run away to get married?
A. Ant-elopes
- Q. Why did the fly never land on the computer?
A. He was afraid of the world wide web.
- Q. What did the dog say to the flea?
A. Stop bugging me!
- Q. What did one flea say to another flea?
A. Shall we walk or take the dog
- Q. What goes 'hum-choo, hum-choo'?
A. A bee with a cold
- Q. Why do bees hum?
A. They forgot the words
- Q. What do bees chew?
A. Bumble gum
- Q. What did one glow worm say to another?
A. Got to 'glow' now
- #2: Everything may now return to normal. Wasn't that as cute as a bug in a rug?

Exit



Daisy Top Ten List

Daisies Coming Up Everything



*Two women: One reads the countdown,
another reflects on the information.*

Our daisy, the common wildflower is making a comeback. Maybe the daisy has always been popular. Maybe you don't know much about the simple, delightful daisy. Let's count down a TOP TEN LIST!

10. THERE ARE MORE DAISIES IN THE WORLD THAN ALMOST ANY OTHER FLOWER.

Daisies make up almost 10% of all flowering plants on Earth. God got busy making them. We will have to start counting daisies because the dandelion might have a few thoughts about this.

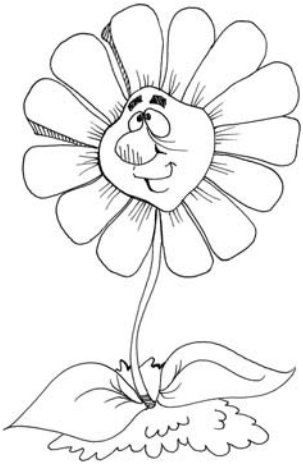
9. DAISIES ARE FOUND EVERYWHERE ON EARTH EXCEPT ANTARCTICA.

If I ever book a cruise to Antarctica, I'm taking a packet of daisy seeds and a bunch of pots to plant in every warming hut across the ice.

8. THE NAME "Daisy" COMES FROM OLD ENGLISH 'daes eag'.

Daisy means 'day's eye'. After all daisy petals open at dawn each day. Not that I would know personally since I am rarely up at the break of dawn to watch daisies pop open. I'm taking this one on faith.





7. PEOPLE FIRST NOTICED DAISIES IN 1792.

Really? It seems to me that daisies were blooming long before that. I'm guessing there were daisies in the Garden of Eden. Scientists were just slow on the uptake until finally a German botanist said, "Hey look! Let's put that weed on the list. There are so many of them we can collect the seeds and sell them! We will name it...COMPOSITAE...yeah, that has a real ring to it. Let's go pick the 'compositae'. Yep, those scientists had a way with naming flowers!

6. DAISIES REPRESENT PURITY AND INNOCENCE.

Isn't that sweet? I feel the hand of some mother sitting in a meadow with her little girl. The conversation turns to life. The mother takes the opportunity to give an object lesson. Daughter takes every word to heart and to keep the memory alive, presses her daisy between books to keep forever. Ah yes, the good old days!

5. A DAISY IS TWO FLOWERS IN ONE.

Yes it is. No it isn't. Yes it is. The white petals count as one flower and the cluster of tiny yellow disc petals that for the 'eye' is another flower. I bet you didn't know that. Look closely. You get two...two...two flowers for the price of one!

4. WE CAN EAT DAISIES.

Missing Vitamin C in your daily diet? Eat a daisy leaf. It's as close as your backyard garden. Daisy leaves make a tasty addition to salads. They are related to artichokes and easier to eat!

3. DAISIES ARE MEDICINE.

I know it's hard to believe but daisies make a body good. Reliable medical reports say daisies are thought to slow bleeding, relieve indigestion and ease coughs. The garden daisy is known as the gardener's friend for its ability to ease an aching back. Don't be surprised if the next time you say, "My back hurts", someone who is in this very room right now says, "Here. Have a daisy"!



2. DAISIES HAVE A DEEP DESIRE TO BECOME WEEDS.

Control your inner 'daisy'. Daisies spread through a garden and a meadow like wildfire. Deep in their little daisy hearts they want to be free flowing weeds, spreading out wherever there is a bit of dirt and a raindrop or two. No dirt? No raindrop? No problem. They grow anyway...just like weeds!

1. And Number One on the Daisy Top Ten List Is:

BEES LOVE DAISIES AND THEIR COUSINS!

All the flowers in the daisy family, including goldenrod, are an important friend of honey makers. So, keep your eyes open when picking daisies. You can never BEE too careful. We wouldn't want to ruin a day in the garden singing "Everything's Coming Up Daisies" with "Ouch! I just got stung"!

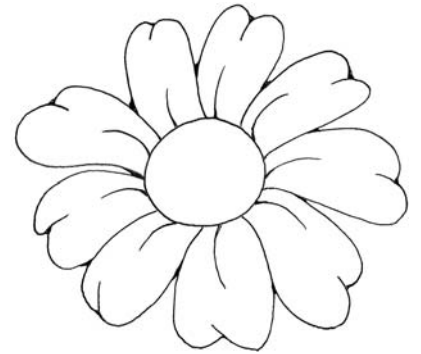
And that the way it is with our current TOP TEN DAISY LIST!

EXIT



Pushing Daisies

*One Woman: Dress as an old fashioned
Street Flower Seller
Carry a large basket or wheel a push cart
filled with daisies. (Real or artificial)*



Enter from rear, waving a flower, singsong call for sales:

Buy my flowers...penny a bloom...buy my flowers....please make it soon.
(Repeat while walking to microphone)

Flower sellers once roamed cobble stone streets of villages and dusty alleys in large cities. Gentlemen with tender thoughts of their lady loves chose lovely bouquets. To complete the romance they picked one petal from the bunch to adorn their lapel before making their way beyond a nearby picket gate hoping the love of their life was waiting at the door.

The world needs flower sellers. In fact, *You* need a flower seller. Slow down. Stroll village streets and garden paths. You may find me coming toward you with a gentle smile and a simple, humble flower in hand. When I pass by, I leave flowers and peace in my wake.

Oh, the stories I could tell of lost loves. Kind thoughts for faithful mothers and bright gifts to celebrate babies. There is not one event that cannot be celebrated or remembered with a flower.

People are people wherever you go. They are rich and poor. They have hopes and dreams. "I'll take a daisy", they say. They smile as they drop their penny in my hand. The daisy brightens their day, their month, their year. I provide a happy moment making people smile with the gift of a daisy.

Repeat: Buy my flowers...penny a bloom...buy my flowers....please make it soon.
(Repeat while walking away)



To Weed Or Not To Weed “Is there any other question?”

*Garden Thoughts From A Gardener
Gardening clothing (hat, sunglasses, gloves, rake)*



To Weed or Not to Weed! Is there any other question? I hate weeding. My back hurts, my fingernails break and don't even ask me about the dirt on my jeans. There are weed haters, weed lovers and an entire group of folks somewhere in between.

Not quite “The Twilight Zone” –the toleration zone!

Who thought up the concept of ‘weeds’? Some people think of wild daisies in the grass as weeds but they are treasured in my garden. When I look at my yard, I see bright dandelions, deep green plants, small blooms in the grass. I must have a green thumb because weeds grow so fast in my garden. They multiply like crazy!

It occurs to me that weeds are just plants that dared to grow in the wrong location. Their thorns, heavy leaves and flowers are out of place in the grass between begonias and pansies. Weeds are messy and messy is never relaxing. They might choke out the green beans. They are out of place at the city park where people picnic on the hills. Weeds encourage bugs like slugs, snails and diseases that kill my daisies! Weeds are definitely wrong, wrong, wrong.



But, what if weeds are part of God's creation. Maybe they serve a purpose. Maybe we have been missing something important all these years. Maybe we ask the wrong questions.

Did you know the same dandelion we attack in the spring may be some of the first flowers a hungry bee has seen in months? Weeds can be left, pulled out or used as mulch. That mulch keeps soil cool, traps moisture and protects the garden dirt.

Some weeds are edible and medical. Don't believe me? Try dandelion greens in your salad or sip dandelion wine, red clover tea or enjoy chickweed pesto.

Ralph Waldo Emerson described a weed as "a plant whose virtue has not yet been discovered". You cannot change the characteristics that make a weed a weed but understanding those characteristics help get the upper hand.

Pull, hoe, mulch or poison...take your choice and act early. Or, let them enjoy life while you move on to other gardening tasks. Now that we have discussed it, I feel so much better having it off my rant list. The problem is...I'll be pushing up daisies before this problem is solved!

To weed or not to weed. Is there any other question?

Exit

WEEDS FOR SALE
PICK YOUR OWN



Angels In My Garden

There's talk of angels in my garden
and I believe it's true.

My garden's just their stopping place
to rest and travel through.

Oh, they don't speak and I don't speak
But I know when they've been there.
The weeds are gone and flowers bloom
As if God Himself took care.

There's talk of angels in my garden,
I hear them day and night.
They whisper in the wind
and sing at each morn's light.

I picture them with wings aglow
On heaven's breezes gently blown.
I like to think those angels know
their Father is my own.



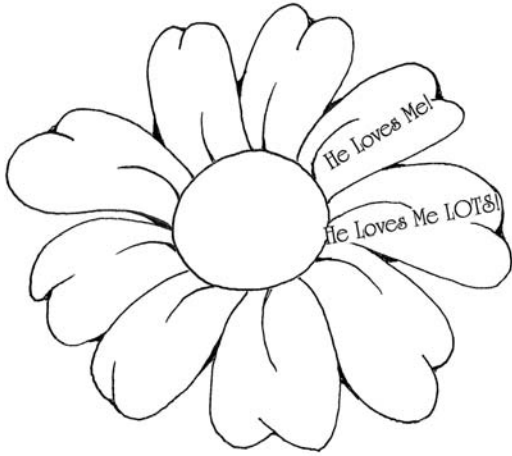
There's talk of angels in my garden,
Heavenly Father sends them there.
He sees my needs when times are hard
He sends the best of care.

So when you're tired and weary
Fly to Him in prayer
There's talk of angels in your garden
The Lord will meet you there.



Conclusion

Upsy Daisy



We say "Upsy Daisy" to a child who has fallen. We want that child to stand up again, move forward, make a fresh start.

How shall I handle the next event that turns my world 'Upsy Daisy'? Or should I say, 'Upsy Downsy'? What would life look like if we could start over with a clean slate? Is there a new adventure waiting at the garden gate?

Jesus said that He came to make all things new. His death on the Cross and His amazing resurrection can have a profound impact on your life. In fact, Jesus can turn our life 'Upsy Daisy'!

One of the most important aspects about the life of a believer is not how many times we fall but how many times we get up and begin again. Listen to these "change your life" words from God's Word:

"Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth...." Isaiah 43:18

"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope." Jeremiah 29:11

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9

"Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus...." Hebrews 12:1-2



Always get up again! Always confess up again! Always pray up again!
Always live up again! Always look up again!

It is hard to be thankful for those "Upsy Daisy" moments in our lives but don't you just love the fact that God does the "upsy" part. It is Him that lifts us up. It may be through circumstances that work together but God has His hand working in all of it.

Many times I wonder why I am down and out but those are the moments I see God gather me into His arms. It is during those times I rely on His encouragement the most. If I look around for Him and listen to His voice, I know He is there even when I am down. I know I can get through anything with Heavenly Father on my team.

God has that way of being present and saying, "Upsy Daisy". It's all going to be okay. You will get back on your feet. Up you go!

From this day forward, when you see a daisy with its' face pointing to the sun, consider it a clear message from God reminding you to stand up, move forward, make a fresh start.

Here we go. Upsy Daisy!

Close In Prayer

Lord, when our world turns 'Upsy Daisy',
let us turn to You.

Help us know you are able and willing
to use the humble daisy as a reminder
of Your great strength and gentle loving care.

In Jesus' Name, Amen

Exit



He Loves Me
He Loves Me LOTS!

Upsy Daisy!

