

**Topic:** Introduction to Gardening  
**Hostess:** IUIC Dallas  
**Event:** DOS Titus 2  
**Date:** May 31, 2020



### **Sister Yoella**

- Everything you see on the internet about gardening is not true. This is why we are hosting this topic. We have real life gardeners so that they can ask questions and provide tips.
- I signed up for a webinar because my Lord wanted me to plant a garden.
- Before then, I would sometimes get good herbs from my neighbors. After the webinar I was fired up to plant my own garden and my Lord would not stop asking me about it. Sister Mashal had things growing all over her house. She said I should order seed and I did. I even did a Facebook post and another sister shared pictures and she gave me encouragement.
- I went to buy organic soil compost and I ordered grow bags. I start a little garden. My Lord has been in prep mode. We made changes to be able to get started and he shared some scriptures with me.

**Proverbs 20:4 KJV** The sluggard will not plow by reason of the cold; therefore shall he beg in harvest, and have nothing.

- People make excuses (Time, money, etc.).
- We must make time. We must be prepared for the storm that is coming.



**Proverbs 20:13 KJV** Love not sleep, lest thou come to poverty; open thine eyes, and thou shalt be satisfied with bread.

- An example of good time priority. Wake up to prepare.
- All it takes is about 15 minutes of gardening. This short period of time can go a long way.
- We must make sure that we archive mama's class on Wilderness. It was a very good class and should be played at least once every other month to remind us the importance of getting ready. The winter is coming.
- Store water, batteries, radios, etc. Have seeds and learn to garden.

**Proverbs 27:12 KJV** A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself; but the simple pass on, and are punished.

- When starting a garden is important because meat and poultry markets are closing down due to COVID-19. A wise woman will foresee famine and destruction. They will prepare in advance.
- On a small scale, we prepare in advance for FOT. This is our responsibility as the keeper of home.
- We need to be self-sufficient. When famine comes, we are going to be responsible for our families. We are going to be responsible to make sure we have food and are taken care of.

**Proverbs 6:6 KJV** Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise

**Proverbs 6:7 KJV** Which having no guide, overseer, overseer, or ruler

- We should be self-motivated especially if you have a family.
- We must prepare in advance to be ready like the ant with no overseer.

**Proverbs 31:11**

The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil.

- If married, you husband should be able to depend on you like a Proverbs 31 woman
- Even for single sisters we should stock up on water and other essentials and be mindful to take care of others.
- Stock up on water when you go out. Elam stores have big bags of beans, rice etc. We can grab an extra bag for a single sister. Let's take care of each other.

**Proverbs 31:13 KJV** She seeketh wool, and flax, and worketh willingly with her hands.

- We should be self-motivated and not slothful and not be a sluggard.
- Flax is like seeds and gardening.
- This is in a sister we can do it; we were made to do it.



### **Genesis 41:28-36 KJV**

**V28** This is the thing which I have spoken unto Pharaoh: What God is about to do he sheweth unto Pharaoh

**V29** Behold, there come seven years of great plenty throughout all the land of Egypt:

**V30** And there shall arise after them seven years of famine; and all the plenty shall be forgotten in the land of Egypt; and the famine shall consume the land;

**V31** And the plenty shall not be known in the land by reason of that famine following; for it shall be very grievous.

**V32** And for that the dream was doubled unto Pharaoh twice; it is because the thing is established by God, and God will shortly bring it to pass.

**V33** Now therefore let Pharaoh look out a man discreet and wise, and set him over the land of Egypt.

**V34** Let Pharaoh do this, and let him appoint officers over the land, and take up the fifth part of the land of Egypt in the seven plenteous years.

**V35** And let them gather all the food of those good years that come, and lay up corn under the hand of Pharaoh, and let them keep food in the cities.

**V36** And that food shall be for store to the land against the seven years of famine, which shall be in the land of Egypt; that the land perish not through the famine.

- We do not want anyone to feel intimidated. In this T2 class we will go through beginning gardening all the way through advanced gardening.
- Whenever you can start you can get things to start growing, you'll be hyped up when you see your progress.
- As for me I am learning as I go, and you can do the same. \
- Citronella plant for mosquitoes
- Read the back of seeds to see what time of the year is best to grow them.

### **Mama Shamarah**

- I do not have a green thumb but in my Spirit, I do have a green thumb and I'm going to try.
- I come from a background of share croppers. Judah being from the south.
- It will be a challenge in cold weather. It's great, Texas is a good state to do this because it is a warm state.

### **Sister Simecah**

**Topic:** Natural fertilizers, mostly those that do not have a lot of chemicals in them.

### **8 Natural Fertilizers Options for Your Garden**

#### **1. Grass clippings**

- 1/2 inch to 1 inch for weed block or mulching.
- It is rich in Nitrogen which is really good for your plant.

#### **2. Weeds**



- They are high in nitrogen and good for fertilizer. Instead of pulling them out to die, you can use as mulch to put in your garden. You can also make weeds tea for your garden.
  - 5 Gallon bucket full of weeds and let soak with water for about a week.
  - It will turn brown and you can use to water your garden.
  - The weeds have nutrients in them
3. Kitchen scraps
- You can use anything in your kitchen to make a compost with. Its Compost releases nutrients where you garden can go 1-2 years without reapplication of fertilizer.
  - It slowly goes into your soil to help your plants. It helps retain moisture which is essential for your vegetable garden during hot and dry summers.
4. Manure
- It come from different sources (cows, horses, and chickens). It is high in nitrogen and nutrients. It is best used as composted instead of raw. Raw manure is high in acid. Mix it with other things so that it won't burn your plant roots.
5. Tree leaves
- instead of bagging your leaves in the fall, collect them for your garden. Leaves are high in minerals and attracts earthworms which also are used to fertilize. Crushed leaves can be used as mulch and can help keep the weeds down.
6. Coffee grounds
- Sprinkle around in your blueberries, roses, or tomatoes. Also sprinkle on the surface of the soil in your garden to acidify your soil.
  - To make garden coffee, you take soak 6 cups of coffee grinds and let it sit for one week until brown. Use it on your acid loving plants.
7. Egg Shells
- Provide your plants with calcium
8. Banana Peels
- They are nutrient rich and make an excellent source of natural fertilizer for your yard and garden.
  - They provide potassium which helps your plants grow strong roots and helps enable good distribution of water and nutrients.
- 
- Miracle Grow Potting Mix is particularly good as it has compost and soil in it.
  - Those with financial constraints, you can go to Dollar Tree and get plastic buckets, put holes in the bottom and the sides so that the water can drain.
  - You can use an insect killer: Dr. Earth Final Stop Vegetable Garden Insect Killer.
  - You can spray every 2 days.
  - You can purchase plant food: Miracle grow Shake and feed.



- Most importantly always pray to TMH and ask him to bless your hands in your garden and bless your crops that they grow or your flowers or whatever you're growing.
- You can connect with sisters and grown different things and share amongst each other.

**Genesis 1:29 KJV** And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat.

- We know that this is the Will of God. He intends for us to do this.

**Genesis 1:11-12 KJV**

**V11** And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth: and it was so.

**V12** And the earth brought forth grass, and herb yielding seed after his kind, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed was in itself, after his kind: and God saw that it was good.

- Everything that we are doing to prepare for the winter is what God have ordained us as Proverbs 31 women to prep for our families.
- Reflect on our forefather Joseph in preparing food for the famine
- Prayer is essential. Pray often for this journey and for your plants.

**Sister Jackee**

***Topic: Pest control without using chemicals.***

- Minimize excessive transporting of your plants from one pot to another. It can shock the root of your plants.
- I put eggshells all around my garden it repels reptiles. Reptiles can leave bacteria on your plants which leads to mildew and salmonella.
- Eggshells also adds calcium to your plants. You can use it in your fertilizer.
- if they get into your garden. Neem oil is very good for your plants. You can purchase at Lowes or Home Depot, Whole foods, or any natural market.

- **DIY (Do it yourself) Neem oil mix:** Mix 2 teaspoons of neem oil and 1 teaspoon of mild liquid soap. Shake in one quart of milk and spray as you need.
- Neem oil is an anti-fungus as well. You can use it as a preventative method.
- **Small can of beer.** Pour in small saucers and leave around your garden.
- **Orange peels:** Helps to keep slugs away as well. Leave them around the garden. The pest will gravitate to the beer or the orange peels and leave your plants alone.
- **Herbal Spray.** sage, thyme, basil, mint, lavender, or rosemary. These herbs repel different insects. way is you can also use a spray bottle with basil, thyme, mint or lavender. In a spray bottle, add several drops of oil, 1 teaspoon of mild soap and 1 quart of water. Shake well and spray as you need.
- **“Miracle Gro- Plant food for Vegetables and Herbs”** to your plants as well.



- Always keep your plant food in a cool place. When you spray your plants do it at night or early in the morning. You still want the bees to be around your plants during the day. You don't want the Neem to repel the bees.

### Sister Zera

**Topic:** *Different items to use for potting plants.*

- Empty vegetable tray
- Reuse your fruit tray
- Water bottle as a planting pot
- Empty plastic candy storage containers
- Pots from the Dollar Tree store
- Plastic pans around the house
- Empty strawberry container.
- Take a walnut place it in a paper towel, wet it and put it in a plastic sandwich bag for one week then plant it.
- If you are planting from seed packets, please remember to read the back of seed packets. It will tell you everything about when to plant that seed, your grow zone and when to or not to plant it.
- I prefer Jiffy Natural Organic Seed Starting mix for soil because I have had a trial and error and I like this brand better.

- Remember to Drill holes at the bottom of your containers so that excess water can drain.
- Do not be discouraged because as you plant things all your seeds may not grow. Look at it as a trial and error.
- Make gardening fun, but most of all be prepared for the winter.



### Sister Hadassah

#### Topic: Tips for in-home gardening

- I started with using mixing bowls.
- Remember to drill holes at the bottom of your planting pots. If you do not your water cannot seep through and your soil will be too wet. I didn't do this at first, my plants roots became rotten. You can get mold and fungus if there's too much water that stays in the soil.
- You can use the **Hydroponics** method. This is the process of growing plants in sand, gravel, or liquid, with added nutrients but without soil.
- I give my plants nutrients with the liquefied premix version of the plant foods the sisters provided earlier.
- Be careful when planting two different plants together.
- Another option is using the "Back to the Roots Microgreens Grow Kit. There is a planting filtration system sold at Walmart



- I started with a small desk lamp for lighting, but realized I needed more. I purchased a bigger grow light from Amazon and it worked perfectly.



- Also, Amazon sells 100% cold pressed Neem oil. It's great for your garden, safe for your skin and hair.
- You can store your gardening supplies in a storage container and in a closet.

***Remember:*** A part of the process of gardening is educating yourself. No matter if you're gardening in an apartment or a house, plants are like having children. Yes, you need to talk to it!!

### **Sister Hephshibah Video #1**

#### **Topic: Backyard Garden and Raised Bed Garden**

- I have a backyard garden and have been gardening for six years now.
- Created a raised bed planting area using wood from the hardware store to reduce bending down while planting.
- Citrus fruits can die in the wintertime because it gets too cold for them.
- You can train your fruit trees to grow in the direction you like to reduce them from spreading everywhere.
- You can keep fruit trees whatever size you would like. They do not need to be a standard orchard size like you would see in commercials.
- Keep your plants in a grow pot if you plan on relocating or moving them.
- You can add a bee house around your garden to keep the bee pollinators around your garden.
- Mint is good to plant in a grow pot because mint will grow and spread everywhere.
- Companion planting is a great thing to research to understand what plants are great to plan near each other. Basil plant is a great plant to keep away bugs and can make your tomatoes taste better.

### **Sister Yashar**

- Borage plant attracts bees and butterflies to help pollination.





- My seeds were ordered in December or January and planted the seeds in cups in the month of February then planted everything in the ground in March.
- I used string to create a grid like pattern in my garden as it helps to identify what is in each square. The string was put down prior to planting.
- Certain plants need the appropriate amount of space to grow.
- A barrier was added around the watermelon patch for indication and to not step on the leaves or interrupt growth.
- Place watermelon seeds in cup and plant after about 2 weeks.

### **Mama Shamarah**

- TMH gives us guidelines to follow with planting and harvest. If we adhere to his guidelines, we will be successful.

### **Sis Sheurekaia**

*Topic: Plant location of your garden.*

- Eucalyptus plant will have your house smelling good. This type plant is hard to find, so if you come across it...get it.
- Lettuce and basil plant leaves get big. You can use some in your salad.
- Regular romaine lettuce does not like a lot of sun. You can use a black tarp to make shade for the plant.
- It is important to choose the right space to grow your garden. It is best to have a south facing garden as it will get a lot of sun.
- There's an app called Sun Surveyor you can download that will tell you how your sun is setting over your garden. Here is a link:  
<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.ratana.sunsurveyorlite>
- I use "Miracle Gro Garden Soil for vegetables and herbs.
- Be sure that your beds pots have the proper drainage.
- Make sure you have the right placement and spacing when you are planting. This way the plants will not overwhelm each other.
- When you purchase your seeds or plants, it will tell you how much spacing is required for proper growth of your plants and how much sun your plants need.
- Squash and zucchini grow with thorns, so be sure to have protective gardening gloves
- Be sure to prune with sharp shears and it is recommended that you prune early in the



morning or late in the evening when the sun is setting. This way you will not burn your plant while pruning.

- When harvesting or pruning, be sure to cut from the bottom up and not the top down. You can harvest for a while.
- Watering is a very important step to your gardening. When watering from a hose, let it run a bit as the water can get hot while it was sitting and can damage your plants. It should be a soft drizzle. Nothing powerful as this can damage your plants as well.
- Water at the base of your plant as water can be heavy and can damage or kill plants that cannot hold water on top of it.
- Test to make sure the water penetrates the roots and not just the surface of the soil.
- Water your plants early in the morning or late in the afternoon. Water left on your leaves can cause them to burn your plants.
- When you see your plant leave kind of slump. Do not worry it's a way that your plant preserves energy during the day.
- I use Thuricide BT Caterpillar Control Spray to repel caterpillars from eating my leafy greens.
- I also use Dr. Bronner's Pure Castile Liquid Soap-Baby Unscented to repel bugs as well. (Dilute 2 tablespoons in a gallon of water and spray as needed.)
- You can use Hydrogen Peroxide as well. Dilute it and add to the soil.
- If you are using concentrated hydrogen peroxide **Do Not** put it on your plant leaves.
- I also use Organic Plant-tone fertilizer. (Dig a hole in the soil, place container deep, add the ½ handful of fertilizer, then the plant and over it with soil.)
- Your plants will grow beautiful and fast!

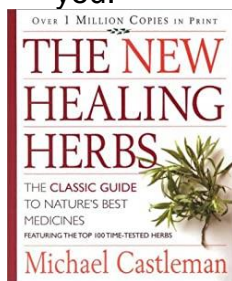


## Gardening Tools

- Make sure you're not planting your seeds too deep into the ground or it will be hard for your plant to grow or appear above the soil.
- The garden hoe and rake tools will save you from back pain, especially for raised beds.

### **Coverings to protect your plants**

- White fabric netting is what you can use to protect it from lizards
- You can use garden bed layer fabric for shading and to cover plants that don't like a lot of direct sun.
- The New Healing Herbs is a book where you can get information that will guide you.



- **If you are taking medication, make sure you consult with your physician anytime you start an herbal diet change.**
- You can buy plants on clearance in stores like Home Depot that appear to be dead, but they are not. They can be brought back to life. All you need to do is re-generate it: Cut the leaf that appears to be dead, crumble it up and put it in the dirt of the same plant.
- You can find a plant like this on clearance and save a lot of money and regrow them.
- Do not start out gardening too big or you will overwhelm yourself.
- Be sure to know if your plant or your vegetable needs a lot of shade or a little bit of shade just as you would the sun.

### **Sister Aviah**

- Potatoes are good to grow in the winter
- I found a nice 3 tier stand that I keep my small planted herbs on, and it saves space. I also have an Aloe plant that I use for my skin. It helps with sunburn. You can find good seeds at [rareseeds.com](http://rareseeds.com)
- Elevated beds are for those that may not have a large yard to garden. It reduces having to bend down a lot to maintain your garden. You can purchase them from Sam's Club.
- Use diatomaceous earth good for soil and prevents some bugs. It's all natural.
- You can use a food grade bucket from Home Depot to plant potatoes. As your stems are growing, add soil on top every 2 weeks.

- Your potatoes are ready to harvest when the yellow flowers begin to die and wither off the stem.



## **Sister Hephshibah Video #2**

### **Tips for storing seeds**

- Onion and carrot seeds do not last any longer than about 1 year.
- Store your seeds in a cool, dark, dry place like a closet.
- Properly label your seeds with the date you harvested the seeds.
- You can place them in an air tight container and place in fridge or freezer. The seeds can last longer.
- Makes sure information of how to plant your seeds can be found on the back of the seed packet.
- Some seeds are Spring/Summer crops. Some are Fall/Winter crops.
- It is recommended that you purchase your fruit tree as a potted plant.
- Know what “Zone” you are in to understand what you can grow in your area and when to plant. You can find information on any seed website.

## **Sister Mashal**

- Knowing your Zone is very important.

**Ecclesiastes 3:1 KJV** To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:

- [Almanac.com](http://Almanac.com) is a website you can see when the frost dates for your zip code are.
- I prefer you use grow bags versus plastic containers. The plastic can leak contaminants into your plants. Grow bags can give oxygen to the roots. (You can find grow bags on Amazon.)
- Put holes in the sides of your container as well, not just the bottom if you do have to use plastic containers.
- Make sure you do not plant too many seeds in one pot. They can fight for sun and end up dying.



- Think long term and try to plant from heirloom seed and not hybrid seeds. Hybrid seeds sometimes do not grow true to type. You can find grow bags on Amazon.
- For transplanting plants, purchase a small plant from the store so that it can establish a root system after you plant it in your garden.
- The size of your container of your plant determines how big your plant will get.
- You can go to [www.johnnyseeds.com](http://www.johnnyseeds.com) to see what fruits and veggies you can grow.
- I like to use Kellogg's Organic Soil, along with Dr. Earth's food for plants for my garden.

Websites:

<https://www.kelloggsgarden.com/>

<https://drearth.com/products/>

- You can cross pollinate your flowers and learn to tell which one is female and male.

### **Questions and Answers**

**Q:** How to control pest attacking young tomatoes. How to keep rodents, spiders and mites away

**A:** Neem oil is your best organic pest control. Prune your tomatoes from the bottom to ensure they are not touching the ground. You can soak lemon peels in oils and mix with soapy water. I prefer you spray plants at night to avoid burning your plant leaves. Indoor tomato plants needs to be transplanted to the outdoors.

**Q:** How to start a compost pile?

**A:** Do not compost meat products (anything with bones.) That is how you attract rodents.

We take food scraps, lent from dryer, leaves, paper towel that you dried your hands with, shredded cardboard and newspaper without the colored ink.

**Q:** After the frost, do you have to replant seeds, or will the plant grow again?

**A:** These are the different types of plants:

- Annuals – like tomatoes, planted as seeds, emerge in the spring, and die back in fall or winter
- Biennials – A plant that takes two years to grow from a seed to fruition and die
- Perennials - Once the season is over, they will not grow back unless the plant drops seeds. Once your plant turns to seed, the plant becomes bitter.

**Q:** How do you deal with rain and heavy storms?



**A:** Have barriers over your plants if you live in an area with high winds, heavy rain, etc. Grow about 25% more of what you need because things will eat your food.

**Q:** Can you put salt in your soil to keep the slugs away.

**A:** Yes, salt is good for magnesium however it will evaporate once it rains. You can also use beer or the product “Slug-o” You can place used coffee grounds, neem oil or peppermint oil as they will work as well.  
Before you plant, place the “Slug-O” product down.

- Peach trees are self-pollinating but trees will pollenate when they have a plant buddy near it.

**Q:** We have a lot of leafy green and not sure what to do with them. Any Advice?

**A:** Take the extra greens and dehydrate them and create green food powder.

**Q:** When you have seeds to replant, where do you replant them? Do you choose a different location?

**A:** Your leafy greens will forever regrow. We call this “Cut and come again.”

### Closing Remarks

*This has been a highly informative chat. Sisters we must be motivated and continue to challenge ourselves...sustain ourselves and be self-sufficient. Remember ladies, winter is coming, we must get prepared!!!*

~~~Shalom~~~