

## He knows

"I need oil," said an ancient monk; so he planted an olive sapling.

"Lord," he prayed, "it needs rain that its tender roots may drink and swell. Send gentle showers." And the Lord sent gentle showers.

"Lord," prayed the monk, "my tree needs sun. Send sun, I pray Thee." And the sun shone, gilding the dripping clouds.

"Now frost, my Lord, to brace its tissues," cried the monk. And behold, the little tree stood sparkling with frost, but at evening it died.

Then the monk sought the cell of a brother monk, and told his strange experience.

"I, too, planted a little tree," he said, "and see, it thrives well. But I entrust my tree to its God. He who made it knows better what it needs than a man like me. I laid no condition. I fixed no ways or means. 'Lord, send what it needs,' I prayed. 'Storm or sunshine, wind,

rain, or frost—Thou hast made it and Thou dost know.'"

—Attributed to Linda Dillow

"Do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you" (The Bible, Matthew 6:31–33 NKJV).

## The logic of it all

By C. H. Spurgeon

The other evening I was riding home after a heavy day's work. I felt very weary and depressed, when swiftly and suddenly that text came to me, "My grace is sufficient for thee" (The Bible, 2 Corinthians 12:9).

I said, "I should think it is, Lord," and burst out laughing. It seemed to make unbelief so absurd.

It was as though some little fish, being very thirsty, was troubled about drinking the river dry, and Father Thames said, "Drink away, little fish, my stream is sufficient for thee."

Again, I imagined a man away up yonder, in a lofty mountain, saying to himself, "I

breathe so many cubic feet of air every year, I fear I shall exhaust the oxygen in the atmosphere." But the earth might say, "Breathe away, O man, and fill thy lungs. My atmosphere is sufficient for thee."

Be great believers! Little faith will bring your souls to Heaven, but great faith will bring Heaven to your souls.

*Note: Believed to be the most widely popular of English preachers in the 19th century, Charles Haddon Spurgeon lived from 1834–1892. He preached his first sermon at 16, pastored his first church at 17, and at 19 was installed as shepherd over the flock of the New Park Street Chapel, Southwark, London. During his pastorate in London, Spurgeon ministered to a congregation of almost 6,000 people each Sunday, published his sermons weekly, wrote a monthly magazine, and founded a college for pastors, two orphanages, an old-folks home, a colportage (religious tracts and books) society, and several mission stations.*