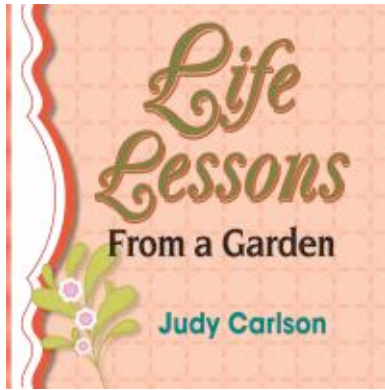




Life
Lessons

From a Garden

Judy Carlson



Life Lessons from a Garden is set in the Spring of the growing season. It is colorful, lively, and a fun read. It is suitable for any age. The photographs are delightful and the reflections, and corresponding connections to life lessons learned in nature, are an inspiration. Come for a Spring Garden walk about!

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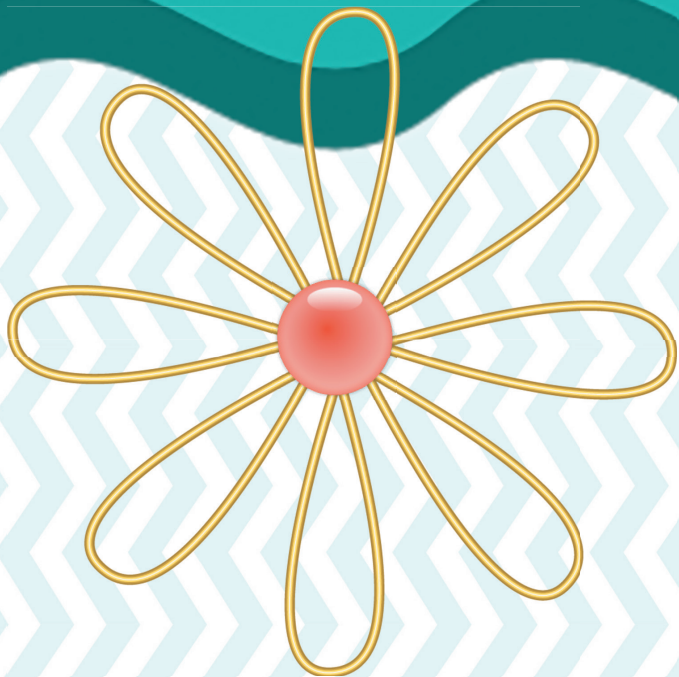
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For the Word of God is living and active
and sharper than any two-edged sword,
and piercing as far as the division of soul
and spirit, of both joints and marrow
and able to judge the thoughts and
intentions of the heart. (Hebrews 4:12)




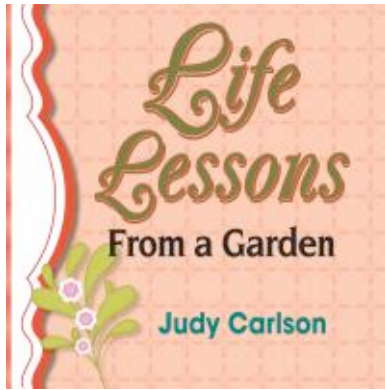


The word of God is living and active... I am aware of God's presence in the garden. It is my place to meet with Him and have the thoughts and intentions of my heart judged. It is not for everyone. It may not be for you who look at this book but I have a desire to share my journey.

If you have read last summer's "Reflections from a Garden" then you are aware of my illness and that I coped with my type of blood disorder by growing a rose garden and reflecting on the names of each rose. It did not begin as a book, but rather a way for me to enjoy my life. Before I started to garden my dog, Coco, and I would go for a little walk every day up our country road. I wanted to leave a legacy of love and give back in some way but I wasn't sure how that would happen. I started to take a trash bag with me and as we walked we stopped and picked up the trash that others tossed out of their vehicles as they drove by.

I was struck by the peace as we walked. We saw fields of alfalfa, and cows grazing. On one walk I saw the grass had just been cut and it was laying in the field, surrendered to its fate. I, also, was surrendered to my fate. We saw all manner of birds: yellow headed black birds, red winged black birds, meadowlarks, and California quail running the roads with their tiny babies. We saw black ibis gleaning in the fields, and of course sage sparrows. Every day as we walked we picked up trash and I thought, well it's a small, simple thing but we are caring for our road. I knew that being on chemo medicine every day I really shouldn't be a garbage collector, but you know, I just didn't care. My heart was full of the joy of living and I searched for ways to enhance my caring.





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