

"LIFE THROUGH THE LENS"



FINDING IT ALL

"Flanders Poppies" They are seeds of real "Flanders Poppies." Ruth was so excited as she displayed her little treasures given by a friend. These floral emblems remind us of those who "gave their all", even to death, in times of war, so generations to come could live in freedom. Planted with care and nurtured, the seeds sprouted, grew, blossomed, and soon the bees found them.

As I watched, several bees visited this one flower one day, but they hardly paused. This particular bee landed and worked his way around and around the flower several times before taking off, his legs fully laden with pollen. While the others came and moved on quickly, this bee worked around the flower several times until he appeared convinced he had all he could obtain from that flower.

How often are we like those bees that flew in, took what they could quickly get, moved on and missed out on so much more? With an attitude of, "Yes, I believe in God so long as he provides **what I want today**," there is the possibility of not finding all on offer. God offers so much more than simply being a "honey-pot", only to make my life "sweet" according to **my** thoughts and values.

This God of love offers his forgiveness never to be taken away, unexpected peace and joy in times of turmoil, feelings of "self-worth" when the world might be against you, and non-judgemental friendship with himself when everyone else is being judgemental. His gifts of love include the assurance of strength to face, deal with and come out the other side of hardships that might generally leave us broken beyond repair.

Unlike some bee strains, Honey bees are reputed to remember and return to flower patches where there is an abundance of what they seek. Not only do they return, but through what is called the "Waggle Dance", they share their find with other bees from their community.

Unlike flowers that eventually die, God has promised always to be available to us, even if sometimes we wander off to search out other gods we think might be more able or more fun. He always invites us to come back and enjoy his riches.

Take Him at His word. You may be surprised by what is available if you don't give up.

Kevin.