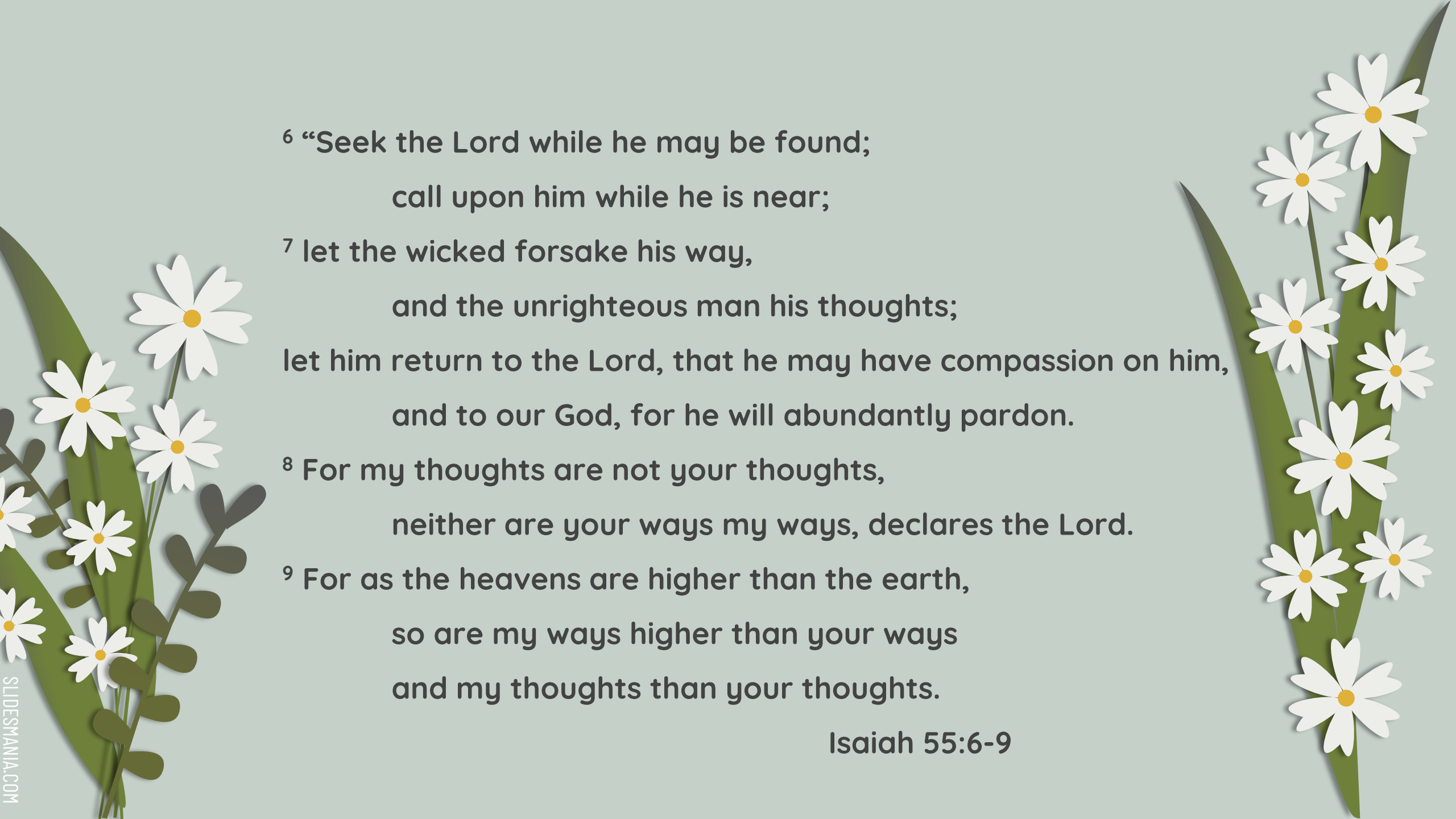


<sup>8</sup> For my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord.

<sup>9</sup> For as the heavens are higher than the earth,  
so are my ways higher than your ways  
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Isaiah 55:6-9



The slide features a light blue background with decorative elements of white daisy flowers with yellow centers and green stems and leaves on both the left and right sides. The text is centered and consists of four numbered verses.

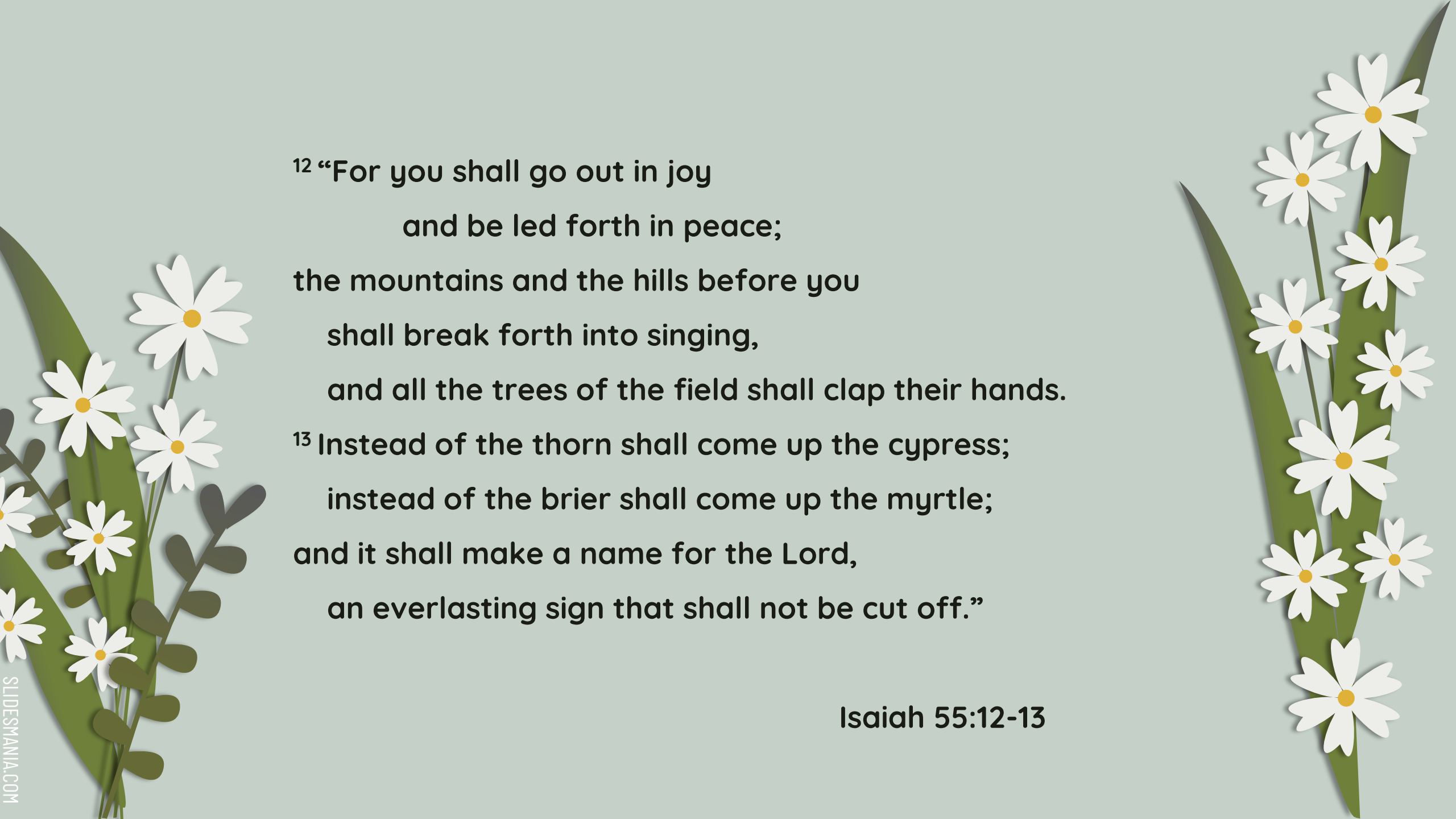
<sup>6</sup> “Seek the Lord while he may be found;  
call upon him while he is near;

<sup>7</sup> let the wicked forsake his way,  
and the unrighteous man his thoughts;  
let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him,  
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

<sup>8</sup> For my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord.

<sup>9</sup> For as the heavens are higher than the earth,  
so are my ways higher than your ways  
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Isaiah 55:6-9



<sup>12</sup> “For you shall go out in joy  
and be led forth in peace;  
the mountains and the hills before you  
shall break forth into singing,  
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.  
<sup>13</sup> Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;  
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;  
and it shall make a name for the Lord,  
an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.”

Isaiah 55:12-13



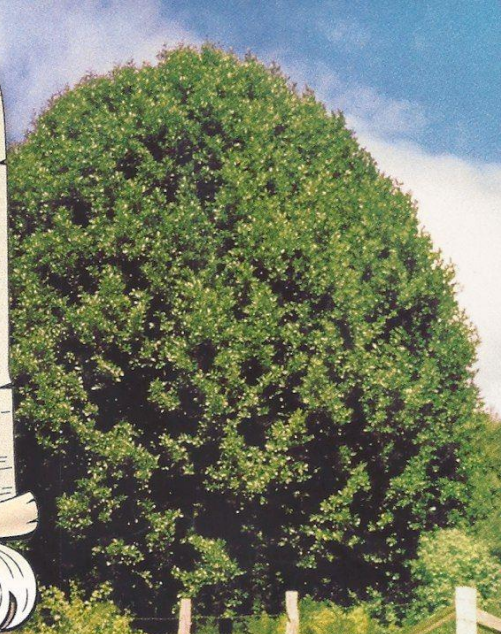


*Legend of the*  
**MYRTLE TREE**

"Instead of the thorn shall come up the fir tree, and instead of the brier shall come up the Myrtle tree; and it shall be to the Lord for a name, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off."

ISAIAH 55:13

America's most beautiful hardwood comes from the Myrtle tree. Rarest of all woods, the symmetrical, broadleaf, evergreen Myrtle grows only in southwestern Oregon (Coos, Curry and Douglas counties). The coloring of the wood is unique, varying from a sedate, satiny gray to riotous, multi-colored grains of red, yellow and brown, with many burls and shapes in its grain. It takes a century or more for the Myrtle to grow to commercial size. Green unseasoned logs will not float.





<sup>20</sup> Is Ephraim my dear son?

Is he my darling child?

For as often as I speak against him,

I do remember him still.

Therefore my heart yearns for him;

I will surely have mercy on him,

declares the Lord.

Jeremiah 31:20

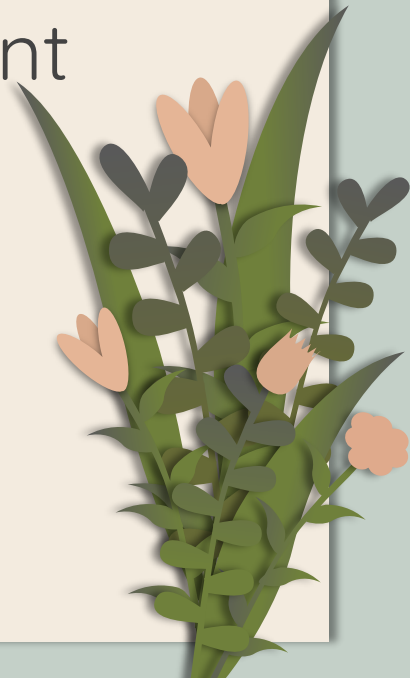


# Consider...

...Remember – covenant

...Heart – not lev, but meah: bowels

...Yearns – hamah: restless, agitated, boisterous, turbulent



# Discussion Questions

1. Discuss your reactions to the two statements below.
  - He does not merely accept us. He sweeps us up in his arms again. (p. 157)
  - The universe will be rinsed clean and restored to sparkling brightness and dignity. (p. 161)
2. We all have natural assumptions about God. Which of yours are melting away in light of learning more about Christ and how he is the exact imprint of the Father? What are these assumptions being replaced with?

