

## All beginnings are delicate



We often refer to God, the ineffable, as life and love: We sing »Lord, you are my life« in a hymn; »God, the infinite love « is a phrase of Vincent Pallotti's which has become deeply ingrained in many of us. We speak of God as love and life, and greatness and infinity resonate. If we human beings look at our diverse experiences of life and love, we discover and understand more and more in the course of time that all life and love springs from tender beginnings that were planted, protected, nurtured and allowed to grow - and we don't know how. Do you know the pause and amazement of looking back on a work, a development, a deep and rich relationship that has unfolded and grown from delicate beginnings? How much life has been created!

When Jesus compares the Kingdom of God to a mustard seed, which a man takes and sows, he opens our eyes to the delicate beginnings. Notice them, he says to us, appreciate them, take them in hand and give space and time to the longing and possibilities that lie within them. Trust the intuition within you, act and then let them grow.

Years ago, at a symposium in South Tyrol, a wood sculptor had used her chain saw to create an impressive sculpture from a large larch trunk, which was set up on the spot in the mountains. A narrow remnant of the trunk, still in one piece, was left

behind as "waste" - insignificant, because the great work had been accomplished. However, the artist had perceived something in this "rest" and now set about uncovering it. A filigree work emerged, reaching for the heavens, with a liveliness and grandeur all of its own.

All beginnings are delicate, like a seed. If we leave it carelessly, nothing will grow. However, if we take it in our hands and plant it, great things become possible.

»small grain
veiled, plump life
closed bud
hidden, longed-for new beginning
from an old rootstock
sprouts fresh, tender shoots
even from the ashes of the fire
seed germinates hat was deemed to be lost
life is stronger
and arises«

(Gaby Faber-Jodocy)

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