

A decorative border of black line art surrounds the text. It features a central horizontal band with three stylized flowers and two curved leaf-like shapes. This band is connected to vertical borders on the left and right sides, which are composed of a series of smaller flowers and scrolling vines. The bottom of the page also features a horizontal band similar to the top one, with three flowers and two leaf shapes.

Before you read any further do me a small favor. Lay anything you might be holding aside and look at your hands. Look at the palms of your hands. Study each finger and each fingernail. Hands are a great blessing from God. Think of how important your hands are. How much better your life is because of this gift. Now close your eyes and for a moment imagine life without hands. Even if we could live without hands what a miserable existence it would be.

We use our hands from the minute we wake up in the morning until we turn out the light at night. Our hands feed us, bathe us, and dress us. We use our hands to dial a phone, hoe our gardens, and reap the harvest with our hands. These are ways our hands serve us. Now how do we serve the Lord with our hands? We might fold our hands in prayer. We open our hearts and hands to give Jesus praise and honor.

No matter what God has put into our hands it will never be a blessing to us or anyone else if we hold it in a tight fist. An open hand offers love and support to those around us. When we offer our hand to our brothers and sisters in a warm handshake, I'm convinced that Jesus places His hands over ours.

The wrinkled, knotted hands of a Godly mother has dried many a tear and helped little ones take a first step. She has guided her children through happy times and disappointments. She has used her hands according to the plan of the Master.

A box of water colors in my hands is worth the price I paid for them; water colors in the hands of an artist can produce a valuable painting. A violin in my hands would only cause people to put their hands over their ears, but someone who knew how could bring beautiful music out of it. A stethoscope in my hands is something to hang around my neck. A stethoscope in the hands of a doctor can mean the difference between life and death. Nails in my hand might produce a birdhouse. Nails in the hands of Jesus brought salvation to the whole world.

God has a master plan for each of us. We may not be remembered for great things. However, if we give a drink of water with love and kindness we have done His will. Let's find what God has placed in our hands and use it to glorify Him!