

# *Carolyn Roth Ministry*

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## *Newsletter*



### **Why We Garden**

Most of us don't need to grow vegetables and fruit. We buy them in stores and markets; yet, many of us have gardens. There is joy in enriching the soil and nurturing seeds to full growth. We delight to see our own flowers grow and bloom, crave succulent fruits from our trees, and yearn to stimulate taste buds with fresh-grown herbs. There is something inherently satisfying about gardening.

Our gardening instincts shouldn't surprise us. Our spiritual father, God, was a gardener, the producer of all vegetation and fruits on earth. Gardening is in our genetic makeup.

God's plan for us is to live with plant creation. God wants brightly colored flowers and leafy trees to delight our eyes and soothe our spirits. The value of plants goes beyond food and beauty; they were used to teach in both Testaments, i.e. in warnings, parables, miracles.

What do you see when you view your garden (and plants)? Do you go beyond looking at them as a whole and focus in on the beauty of each? Do you imagine the produce you will have from them and how yummy it is going to taste? Alternatively, are you thinking about the myriad of challenges in your life so that you aren't seeing the beauty in front of you?

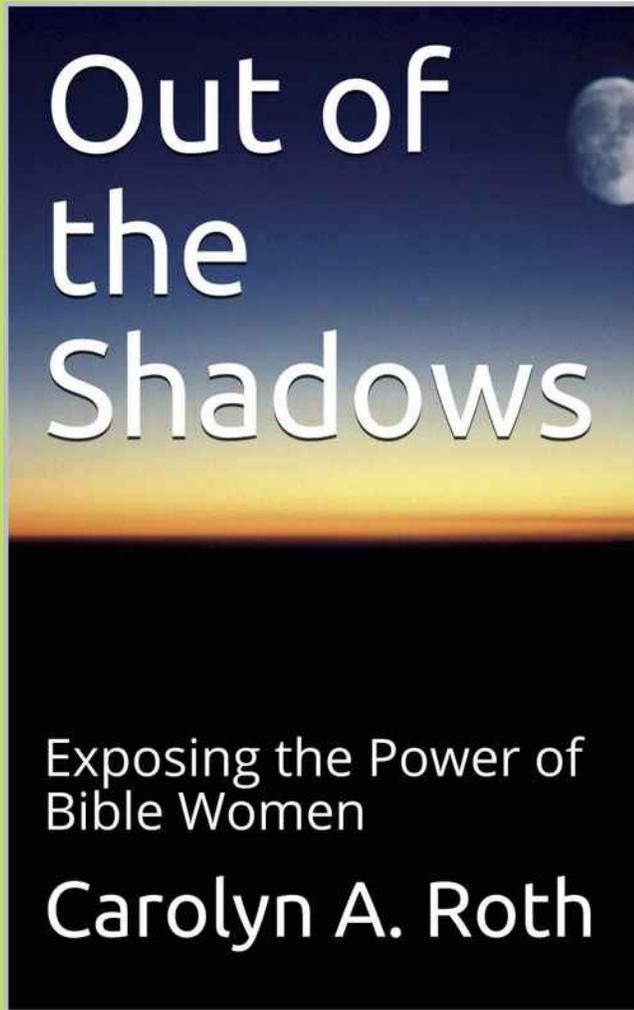
### **Reflection**

Think about plants in your garden or that you tend in your home. How do they give you joy in addition to your seeing their beauty?

### **7 Ways to Love During Coronavirus Epidemic**

Most of us know the federal government's 15 steps to reduce the spread of coronavirus. These public health steps are valuable and should be followed. At the same time there are steps that believers can follow to show love during these rough times. Here are 7 steps to demonstrate that we are Christians by our love:

1. Pray to God for a reduction in the spread of coronavirus.
2. Pray for individuals who have the virus. If you don't know anyone by name, pray in general.
3. Thank God for the health services workers, military, and police force during this time of stress. Pray that God will give them wisdom and protection as they do their jobs.
4. Don't forget your church. Mine is closed and will be closed for 4-6 weeks. Remember to send your money to support them while they are closed, but still minister through social media.
5. Send emails and letters to family and friends. Inquire if they have any needs you can meet while maintaining social distance. A telephone call doesn't contaminate anyone.
6. I am an elder. The only other person in my home is my husband. Be patient and loving to family members you are sharing close personal space with.
7. Thank the checkers at the grocery market, workers in the drive through window at the fast food restaurant, even your garbage man for working.



## Out of the Shadows Description

Have you noticed that all Bible writers were men? Often, these men gave little information on women. I've come to suspect that the Bible's dearth of information on women was because male Scripture writers had little insight into what women felt or thought. Their lack of understanding made it hard for them to interpret women's behavior. Perhaps, male Bible writers couldn't recognize both a woman's power or influence.

This book fills the deficit by explaining when, why and how women in the Bible were influential and powerful. It uses Scripture to document women's behavior.

Dr. Roth averred, "This book is so not about bad girls of the Bible! Nor, is it another alphabetical review of all women named in the Bible. Rather, *Out of the Shadows, Exposing the power of Bible women* shows that Bible women were just that—powerful and influential. "

Through reading this book, women become proud of their biblical women ancestors and reclaim their own power and influence.

## Recommendations

This is the best book yet about the women of the Bible. Dr. Roth is a true scholar and knows not just scripture itself, but the background during which it was written. I highly recommend this book." **Dr. Fred Eichelman, Christian educator and author.**

I enjoyed reading this book. It gave me great insight into the power and influence women uses to achieve their goals (some for good, some not) during biblical times. God empowered women with the ability to influence others for His glory. We should use this influence to encourage others for good in a Godly manner. But just like the woman in biblical times, we all fall short. However, it is each woman's responsibility to use this ability for His glory and as Christians we should make it our goal. **Debbie Angell, Christian Laywoman**

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