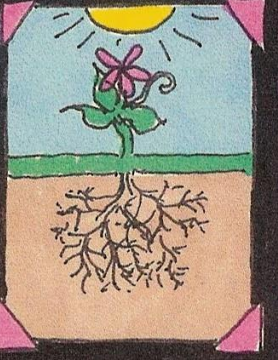
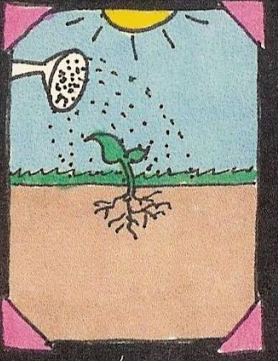
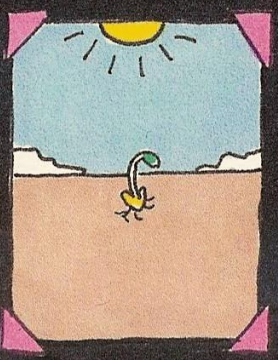


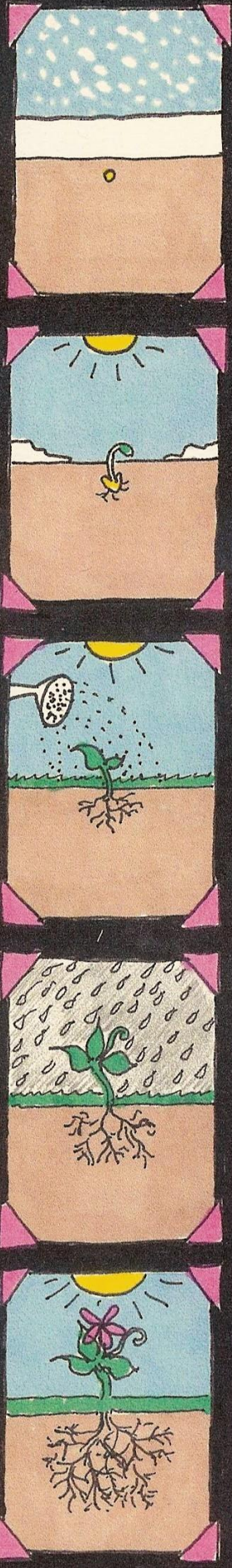
April 2

THROUGH

She tapped softly, then quietly pushed the door to the room. Her friend lay quietly in her hospital bed. As she entered the room, he quietly rose as if to protect her. As the visitor leaned to her friend and whispered, "I Love You," he smiled and took her hand. He then listened to what she said.

She whispered again to her friend of her love, and then continued: "You know the passage in the Bible that says 'Ye, though I walk through the valley...' and then let her voice trail off to silence... Do you know the most important word I just said? It is the word THROUGH. You will go THROUGH this valley. God loves you. If you get better, your family and friends will rejoice and surround you with love. If you do not get better you will pass to the perfect love of God. This valley is only temporary...you will go THROUGH.





So either way you will find yourself in a win/win situation: love, a perfect love prepared just for you.”

This Lent I will pray each day for my friends... and friends I do not know. I will pray that they find peace, and in so doing, will go THROUGH to find perfect love.

Jesus went THROUGH His valley on the terrible day, and He went THROUGH to the perfect love of God. I love to see the empty cross, for I thank Him for his great sacrifice, yet He came down from that cross to be in the perfect love of God.

Again to her friend, “you, too, will go THROUGH to perfect Love,” and with a smile she left the room. What a blessed promise...We will go THROUGH to perfect love.



Joan Martin

