

Ladies and gentlemen,

Today, I want to share with you a simple story, one that taught me an invaluable lesson about resilience and perseverance.

Picture this: a small garden in my backyard where the sun kissed the soil each morning. In this garden, I decided to plant a sunflower seed. I was eager and excited, dreaming of the tall, cheerful blooms that would soon brighten our home.

Days turned into weeks, and there was no sign of my sunflower. Doubt began to creep in. Perhaps, I thought, my attempts were in vain, and I should give up. But something within me encouraged patience.

Then, one crisp morning, as I was about to abandon the project, I saw it--a tiny green sprout breaking through the soil. It taught me that beneath the surface, life was unfolding, unseen and unnoticed, but happening nevertheless.

That sunflower, once grown, stood taller than I could have imagined. It taught me that even when progress seems invisible, persistence and care can lead to remarkable growth.

So, I stand before you with this story to encourage you: when you plant your seeds--whether they be dreams, goals, or hopes--have patience. Even when you can't see the progress, remember that remarkable things often start with small beginnings.

Thank you.