



Women's Devotional eNewsletter | November 2018

Rain!



It's raining! It is cool and so very peaceful out here on the porch as I sit and watch the rain. What a wonderful time of blessing!

At first, there is no thunder and lightning, only a soft, steady rain that is surprisingly loud as it hits the leaves on the trees. It is such a peaceful sound and so soothing. Then, a loud shower brings the water tumbling off the roof, running into the 'river' that is usually a dry creek draining the mountain through our back woods. What a blessing He is showering on the land this morning...drops of pure joy onto a dry and thirsty land. What a relief! I relish this time of refreshing.

While running errands yesterday, I heard a song on the radio that made me wonder about my love for the Lord. Do I love Him as I should...with all I am able? My love is not a hot, compassionate, "emotional" kind of love – more of a comfortable, familiar, trusting love. Is that enough? Is that His desire? Should I be more 'on fire,' more zealous, for Him? What does it mean for me to have a heart like His? Am I too complacent in my love for Him? Is my love, which has withstood the trials and tests of years, just as necessary to the Kingdom as the wonderful, passionate zeal of the evangelist?

This morning I think I understand a little better. Am I a thunderstorm – or a steady soaking rain? The earth needs both.

In a thunderstorm, the lightning breaks through the atmosphere and releases much-needed nitrogen to the plants. The heavy rains wash everything clean and fill the ponds and lakes with their runoff. In the east I can hear the rumble of thunder...big, deep, and passionate! It is a wonderful, powerful sound that I love...His deep, rich, bass voice! It rumbles deep in my being and brings a cool blast of air from the heights of heaven. There is not much about a thunderstorm that I would call soothing; but it does ignite passion, excitement, and, sometimes, fear. I cannot be ambivalent about thunder. It rattles my very soul!

In contrast, a slow, steady, soaking rain is needed to sink deep into the ground, to feed the roots of the trees far below the surface. Without it the land would never be able to drink deep and replenish. I am refreshed by times of quiet spent in His Word, in prayer, and in

listening to His voice whisper deep in my soul. I long for days that have hours to spend with Him. As much as I love the thunder, I need the slow, soothing rain of His Spirit.

How wonderful that the Lord has so many voices to speak to me – the passion and fire of a thunderstorm and the quiet comfort of a soft shower. Everything I need is in Him! God uses both in the hearts of His children.

I pray for each of you to find peace – and fire – in the midst of the storms of your lives.

Thank You, Father, for the wonderful confirmation You bring to me in this magnificent rainy morning!

“When his voice thunders, the waters in the heavens roar. He makes the clouds rise from the far-off horizons. He makes the lightning flash out in the midst of the rain. He unleashes the wind from the places where he stores it.”

[Jeremiah 51:16](#) (NET)

“You visit the earth and give it rain; you make it rich and fertile with overflowing streams full of water. You provide grain for them, for you prepare the earth to yield its crops.” [Psalms 65:9,10](#) (NET)

Reflect & Respond

- How would you describe your love for your heavenly Father? Are you a thunderstorm? A steady, gentle rain? Or a little of both?
- Are you able to find His comfort in the midst of your storms? Will you reach out to Him for the gift of His peace?

Rain was written by Cathi Cody.

Cathi is known by many names: wife to her high school sweetheart, Carl; Mom to her children; Cece to her grands; sister; Master Gardener; and Butterfly Nanny. But the name she values most is Daughter of the King. Her Elohim has given her a love of His creation and blessed her with special places where she may observe His world and be taught by Him. She is passionate about His word and loves sharing it. Her vocation is teaching and her calling for the last 15+ years has been to teach women about her Lord and Savior.



Past issues: Fayetteville Women's Devotional eNewsletter

Women's Spring Studies

Online Registration opens November 18 | Studies begin January 22

[Priscilla Shirer's Armor of God](#)

Choose from Tuesday mornings 9:00am-11:00am or Tuesday evenings 6:30pm - 8:30pm. Childcare is available for both sessions.

An **Enneagram Perspectives Class** will also be offered this spring during the same day and times. Stay tuned for more info!



To register for women's studies visit fwmregister.fellowshipfayetteville.org beginning November 18.

***For those of you involved in the current women's studies, don't forget to make plans to attend the Christmas Brunch Share Day in the FayetteKids 3-6 Theater on Tuesday, December 4 as we wrap up our fall study semester.*

A Season to Give



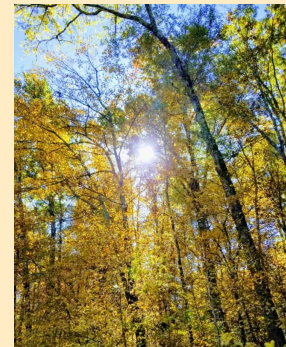
Don't miss a wonderful opportunity to make a difference in the life of a child this holiday season. Pick up your Operation Christmas Child (OCC) Shoebox at the Connections Booth in the Worship Foyer and return it there by November 19. Through this powerful opportunity to live generously, over 1.6 million children put their faith in Jesus Christ last year alone.

Visit www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child to learn how you can follow the delivery of your package. And if you don't have time to pack your own shoebox, then click [HERE](#) to take a few minutes and build a shoebox online for just \$25.

Just for Fun

Last month we asked our readers what their favorite fall activity was to share community with family and friends. The results are in, and now we want to hang out with ALL you fun-loving people! The winner is...

- ***A hike in falling leaves - 35%***
- *Bonfires and s'mores - 24%*
- *Camping - 17%*
- *Fall craft shows - 12%*
- *Hayrides and pumpkin patch - 12%*



Resources



Discipleship for Women | [Learn more & enroll](#)

Interested in being discipled or pouring into another woman as a discipler? Complete an online assessment profile to be contacted by our Regional Discipleship Leader for placement.



Fellowship NWA | [Women's Devotional Blog](#)

Subscribe to *Women's Ministry Devotional Blog* from our sisters at Fellowship NWA Women's Ministry.

Service Opportunities

Weekday Front Office Help

If you have administrative skills and enjoy being around people, we would love to put your talents to use as a member of our front office team at Fellowship Fayetteville. We are currently seeking two more office volunteers for Thursdays and Fridays to serve in four hour shifts. Contact: [Ray Wagoner](#), 479-878-2999.

Serve One

At Fellowship we encourage our members to Worship One/Serve One, meaning attend a corporate celebration service and then volunteer to serve during another service so others may worship. Many team positions are currently available on Sunday mornings including hospitality, media, worship choir, prayer, FayetteKids, One2One, and prayer. Visit serve.fellowshipfayetteville.org to find your fit.

Connect with us!



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