

## **The Drizzle of a Holy Life**

I love rainy days! As long as there are not too many of them in a row! I also love the sunroom off the back of our house. You can sit out there when it's raining and hear the exaggerated pitter-patter of the rain as it hits the metal roof; a glorious symphony in a percussion of rain. The raindrops zigzag their way to the bottom of the windows, devouring one another along the way and racing to the bottom for some secret raindrop reward. It has a mesmerizing effect that is comforting, encouraging, strengthening, and refreshing. Oh yeah...and sleep-inducing!

I remember when I became a Christian. Talk about waking up in a new world! Everything was different! The grass looked greener, the sky looked bluer, and the flowers looked brighter (sounds like someone in love for the first time, huh!). Everything was engulfed in the mercy and forgiveness of God. Everything pointed to new life in Christ.

I remember hitting the ground of the holy life at breakneck speed; tearing through the Word of God, joining the choir, participating in Bible studies, being at the church every time the doors were open and serving everywhere I could. I remember growing in grace by leaps and bounds and "thinking" I had the flesh by the tail. I remember how the holy life seemed like one of those Oklahoma flashfloods that can happen in a split-second when the ground is dry and parched.

It didn't take long for reality to set in with the realization that the holy life is not always like the flashflood or the torrential downpour. Often, it's more like the soft pitter-patter of a slow and steady rain. Sometimes it's more like the saturating constancy of a lazy drizzle. At first, that change can be discouraging to a new believer, making one wonder, "What happened and where did it go?" It can shake up one's preconceived picture of how the holy life is really supposed to look. Is it fast, furious and ferocious or measured, methodical and meticulous?

The answer is "Yes." It is both. And that's a good thing, because flashfloods typically have more effect on the surface of the ground than they do underneath. Sure, there are times when we're crashing through the holy life like a storm. More often, though, we're experiencing the drizzle. Drizzle is where the real depth and breadth of growth takes place. It's that way with the ground and it's that way with the Christian life. Drizzle feeds and cultivates our spiritual roots with soaking consistency, so that we'll be anchored in the bedrock of the Person of Christ. The drizzle of the holy life is God's transforming power which courses through our spiritual veins and shapes us, day by day, to the image of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Whether it's in the downpour or the drizzle, God is growing you, drop by transforming drop, to the praise of His glorious grace.