

Remember the Sabbath—And Every Day In-Between

by Laura Shaw

"Now the Bereans were of more noble character than the Thessalonians, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true."

Acts 17:11

North Texas was in a drought for almost two years. It was the longest I remember since moving here in 1988. When some rain finally began to fall here and there, the ground was just too dry to absorb the precipitation. So the water restrictions remained. And the zinger: almost every time it would rain any significant amount, it would do so on Friday. For those of us in my city, that meant rain on the only day we could water the yard. So the sprinklers came on, then it would rain. It would still be raining when the sprinklers came on again in the evening.

Very often, this can typify our lives spiritually as well. We go through the week with a prayer or two and little to no significant time with our Lord. We're excited to go to church on Sunday, though. Sunday comes...we get a healthy dose of the Lord's nourishment, and we're eager to hear some more. It hits the surface, we're stirred and moved to action, but it quickly bounces off our minds, because our heart is not soft enough to absorb the truth.

Our hearts, souls and minds need watered daily, my friends. We cannot expect to grow in our faith if Sunday is the only time the sprinklers come on. **"Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day."** 2 Corinthians 4:16b. I want to have this refreshment with Him each day, don't you? The contrast is not as desirable: In John 4, Jesus tells the Samaritan woman at the well after she asks him for a drink, **"If you knew the gift of God and Who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked Him and He would have given you living water."** OUCH! I hope He never has to say that to me!

We have His gift waiting for us each day. It is the Living Water that renews and refreshes us minute by minute, hour after hour, for days and weeks to come, but we have to recognize Jesus standing there holding the cup before we can quench our thirst. To recognize Him, we need to know Him. To know Him, we must spend time with Him. Let's ask Him for the desire, the determination and the discipline to do just that, so we come to the well **before** it runs dry. We'll look forward to the Sabbath with great eagerness, then examine the Scriptures and talk to our Lord each and every day, we pray...Amen.

*So often I think of You, Lord—at least I think I do.
Wait, the phone just rang, I'll get back to You.*

*Thank you for holding, Lord, I'm back now...just barely.
Now what was I praying, My mind wanders, I'm staring.*

*Help me to focus...I long for revival,
He says in my spirit, «Just open Your Bible.»*

I open His word, and He goes straight to my core,

With the words of Psalm 119, as He's done so many times before.

*I read, «Oh, that my ways were steadfast in obeying Your decrees!»
I'll make that my earnest prayer this day on my knees.*