

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: " These seven 'togethers' are seven links of a chain which bind us indissolubly to Christ: Crucified together; quickened together; raised together; seated together in Heavenly places; sufferers together; heirs together; and glorified together with Christ. They indicate the everlasting purpose of God in our redemption, and His plan in effecting that purpose."

~ Author unknown, from Leaves of Gold

“RAINDROPS”

It began to rain and heavily, too; a welcome sight for the dry and barren land far below. One raindrop looked admiringly at itself in the mirror of another drop of somewhat smaller stature and said, "My, I am much bigger than you, surely I will be made more welcome than you."

The smaller one replied, "Well, I will be able to get into places that you can't get to."

Another raindrop literally bounced past before singing out, "Yes, but look at me. The sun has caught my beauty. The earth will love me."

A rather bloated raindrop floated past filled with pride saying, "Listen, I will cover a much bigger area for I am bigger than all of you!"

Beside them, a rather insignificant drop almost weeping said, "Oh, I do wish I was bigger."

"Me too!" another chorused.

The parched ground opened its mouth and sighed with relief as raindrop after raindrop fell upon it, each one receiving thanks. Dry, crusty seeds began to drink. Some seeds reached to the small drops, others to the oversized and proud. Within moments the seeds sprang up, flourished, and then flowered to show their appreciation. The earth closed her mouth once again; filled for the moment.

The various raindrops gathered together, their beauty and size now depleted and polluted by the earth. As they gathered, they began in large numbers to be swept along on a tide of "well done's". Within moments they were racing together from a trickle on the mountain top to the valley below where they formed a raging river.

"Where's old fatty?" Someone shouted out.

"He's here somewhere!" the answer came floating back.

Another replied, "Why look, we are all as one in this river. There's no difference between us now.

They raced forward together! A job well done; a finished work, as they reached the ocean. The Creator applauded them and said, "Well done!"

One whispered to another, "We covered a lot more of the earth when we worked together, didn't we!"

~David Robinson, our Irish brother in Ireland

This story makes you stop and think doesn't it? We may start out as one thing, but the Word says that God has plans for our lives. And as we walk in the promises of God, wonderful changes happen. 2 Corinthians 5:17 says it this way, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold all things have become new."

One Sunday morning in 1960, I asked the Lord Jesus to come into my heart. He did, and my journey with Him began. The journey carried me past others who were traveling along life's road. We were all trying to find our identity in Jesus; to find "Our Place" in the Body of Christ; to move into our destiny.

My life was continually being blessed, changed, enriched, corrected and the list goes on, as my life intertwined with others. Some experiences were fun, exciting while other experiences were difficult, at times painful, yet life changing; I was going from instant to instant, seeking the Father's heart and will.

Jesus shows us daily the positive consequences of our actions and beliefs; they can change our eternity in astounding and wonderful ways. To behave in negative actions and thoughts would be a waste, for we know what awaits us on the other side.

We are all created in the image of God for a life of purpose. As the raindrops did, believers come together from season to season and our interactions bring life changes; grace and mercy abound. We know our future holds great promise for fulfillment and reward—and that it comes from the wiser choices the Holy Spirit helps us make. One day we will join together in the River of Life with our Jesus.

John 7:38 says, He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.v