



# When the Rain Speaks — Week 1 Chapters 1-8

**Check in Question:** *Think of a tree from your life. Did you ever climb one, sit beneath one for shade, taste its fruit, or even build a treehouse? What did that experience mean to you?"*

## Opening Prayer

Creator God,  
In the beauty of sky, water, and earth we see Your hand.  
Teach us to care for creation as a gift from You.  
Help us listen and share this day with reverence,  
that we may protect the earth You have given us.  
We ask this in Your holy name. Amen.

## Reflection questions:

*The questions from Sr. Melannie are thoughtful and good. Here are some of hers, along with a few additional ones. Please pick one or two and share your thoughts aloud.*

### Chapter 1: The ash tree

- Who has provided you with shelter and shade in your life?
- Have you ever been a tree for others?

### Chapter 2: Horses and camels

- Describe a horseback riding or camel experience.
- Do you ever find yourself judging by appearances alone question marks have you ever been wrong?

### Chapter 3: Cosmic voyage



- With the new Webb telescope, the vastness of the galaxies is being brought to our eyes. Do you find it interesting to see these new images from space? What do they stir in you?
- When considering the vastness of the cosmos how would you begin to answer the question: what must God be like?

#### Chapter 4: The art of beholding

- As a child did you like to hold or play with bugs?
- How do you share wonder awe?

#### Chapter 5: The 32,000 year old seeds

- Is there anything inside of you that could germinate given the proper conditions?

#### Chapter 6: I wanna be outdoors gene

- Have you spent anytime outside recently?
- Why do you like or dislike outdoors?
- What lessons have you learned from nature?

#### Chapter 7: Microcosmos

- How can you stoop down or climb up and take a different perspective on one aspect of your world today?

#### Chapter 8: Giraffe design 101

- What designs in nature intrigue you?
- Besides thinking about weight, have you ever thought about, prayed about, the design of your own body?

### **Closing Prayer**

For whom and what shall we pray..

Creator of all,

We give You thanks for the beauty of our world—sky, sea, and earth.

For every creature, every tree, and every flowing stream, we are grateful.

May we honor and protect this gift of life each day.

We ask this in your holy name.

Amen

