



When the Rain Speaks —

Week 2 Chapters 9-16

Check in Question: *The first big rain of the season always stirs something in us. For some, it's cozy afternoons and the smell of wet earth; for others, it brings back harder memories. What comes to mind for you when you think of rain?*

Opening Prayer

Creator God,
In the beauty of plants, animals, and the wonders revealed through science,
we see Your creative hand at work.
Teach us to treasure creation as the sacred gift it is from You.
Open our hearts to listen with awe and to walk gently upon the earth,
so that we may honor and protect the world You have entrusted to our care.
Through Christ our Lord, we pray. 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 9: When the rain speaks

- In what ways in your opinion is rain like God?
- Why are there so many weather metaphors?

Chapter 10: What's the matter?

- Clinically speaking...Adding all of that up — the **raw material value** of a human body is only about **\$100–\$150 USD**, depending on size and market prices. If we consider *trace precious metals* (like gold, platinum, and uranium) that exist in truly microscopic quantities, they'd add less than a cent total. The **energy** stored in your body's chemical bonds, if released, would be worth millions of dollars — but of course, that's not safely accessible. The **biological complexity** and organization of your body are what make it *priceless*. It's one of those fun reminders that the raw materials are cheap — but life itself is infinitely valuable. What are your insights on these thoughts?

Chapter 11: The Hawk knows his business

- What is your “business”? Are you able to articulate it?
- What is your “is-ness”?

Chapter 12: Shedding

- Have you ever considered shedding as a fear of growth? Why are why not?

- Is there anything you must shed at this particular time in your life to allow for the growth of a new and better you?

Chapter 13: Bees

- What other small things in nature play a big role in the well ordering of life?
- What other things have a long shelf life?

Chapter 14: Taming things

- Have you ever tried to tame someone or something?
- Do you ever try to tame God? In what particular ways?

Chapter 15:

- How is the sun a good image of God for you?
- We often use the sun as a metaphor for Jesus, what other metaphors do you employ when describing Jesus?

Chapter 16: John Muir

- What spiritual qualities do you find in nature?
- John Muir is credited with helping to establish and preserve national parks. Which national park have you enjoyed visiting?

Closing Prayer

For whom and what shall we pray..

Creator of all,

You hide Your miracles in the quiet work of creation—
in the patience of growth and the mystery of renewal.
You pour out Your rain, blessing both seed and stone,
reminding us that every drop holds the promise of new life.

Teach us to see worth in what is hidden or humble,
to honor the unseen work that sustains life.

May we learn from the rain's persistence,
from the light's generosity,
and from the wild, free ones who remind us
that all life is connected in Your great design.

Amen.

Next week chapters 17-24