



When the Rain Speaks —

Week 4 Chapters 25-32

Check in Question: *Think of a time when you longed for something beyond your own power — a healing, reconciliation, or guidance — and sensed God’s response. Was it the miracle you expected, or did it come in a surprising form?*

Opening Prayer

In the silent strength of mountains, the flowing gift of water,
and the steady rhythm of our hearts, we find Your presence.
Teach us to move with the grace of the serpent,
to honor the passing of time,
and to walk as lightly as a feather upon the earth.
May all creation draw us closer to You,
through Christ our Lord. 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 25: Miracles: Our Daily Bread

- What are some of the *ordinary miracles* in your everyday life?
- Sister Melanie speaks of the challenge of remaining cheerful even during adversity. What helps you stay hopeful or cheerful in difficult times?

Chapter 26: Snakes

- What are your thoughts or feelings about snakes?
- What are some other animals you either love or dislike — and why?

Chapter 27: Mountains

- In Scripture, mountaintop experiences are often moments of divine encounter — theophanies. Why do you think being “on the mountaintop” makes us feel closer to God?
- Is there a mountain range or a special place where you feel spiritually aware or connected?

Chapter 28: Water

- We who live in the desert have an extraordinary respect for water. How is water important to you personally or spiritually?
- Have you ever reflected on the *value of water* — and what life would be like without it?

Chapter 29: The Heart

- What effect can the awareness of your own heartbeat have on your prayer or meditation?
- Do you ever *listen to your life*? In what particular ways?

Chapter 30: The Fruit and Berry Chant

- Sister Melannie says that God gives us what we need for today, calling us to trust that we'll be given what we need tomorrow. Do you agree with this? Or do you find it difficult to trust?
- Are you ever impatient with nature's cycles — waiting for things to grow or unfold in their time? How do you cope with that?

Chapter 31: How Much Time Do You Have

- The oldest documented human being, Jeanne Calment of Arles, France, lived 122 years and 164 days. How long would *you* like to live?
- How will you spend your “dash” — the time between your birth and your death — *today*?

Chapter 32: The Pith of a Feather

- What might you look at more closely or appreciate more deeply today?
- When have you last marveled at God's creation?

Closing Prayer

For whom and what shall we pray..

You move through the silent glide of the snake and the steadfast rise of mountains.
You flow in rivers that carve stone and in the quiet pulse of every heart.
You teach us through time—ever turning, never still—
and through the feather's fall, gentle as grace.

Open our eyes to Your presence in all things,
that we may walk lightly, love deeply,
and trust the rhythm of Your eternal care.

Amen.

Next week chapters 33-40

Additionally During our last week, we can talk about other books we might want to read next.