

# “SINGING IN THE RAIN”

*(2 Corinthians 7:1-7)*

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*Expository Sermon of II Corinthians - Sermon 14*

*Speaker: Rev. Bobby Lam*

*Date: October 22, 2017*

*Place: Hope Community Baptist Church*

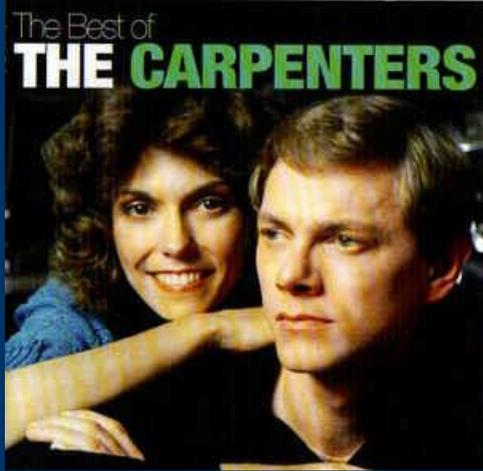


# INTRODUCTION:



*I'm singin' in the rain  
Just singin' in the rain  
What a glorious feelin'  
I'm happy again.  
I'm laughing at clouds.  
So dark up above  
The sun's in my heart  
And I'm ready for love.*

# INTRODUCTION:

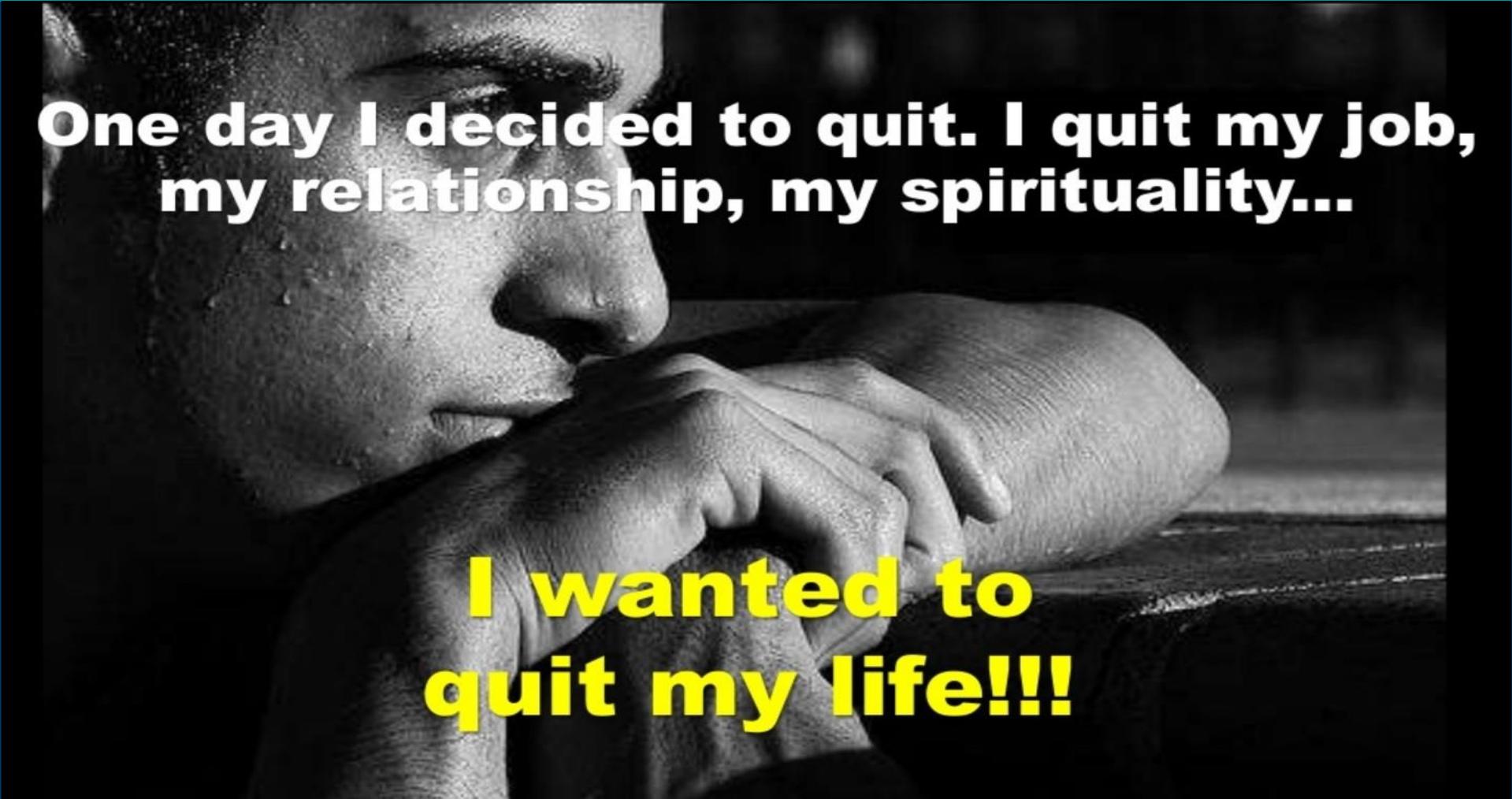


*Talking to myself and feeling old  
Sometimes I'd like to quit  
Nothing ever seems to fit  
Hanging around  
Nothing to do but frown  
Rainy days and Mondays always get me down*



*I'll never let you see  
The way my broken heart is hurting me  
I've got my pride and I know how to hide  
All the sorrow and pain  
I'll do my crying in the rain*

# **INTRODUCTION:**



**One day I decided to quit. I quit my job,  
my relationship, my spirituality...**

**I wanted to  
quit my life!!!**

# **INTRODUCTION:**

**I went to the woods to have  
one last talk with God,**

**“Can you give me  
one good reason...”**

**“NOT TO QUIT?”**



# INTRODUCTION:

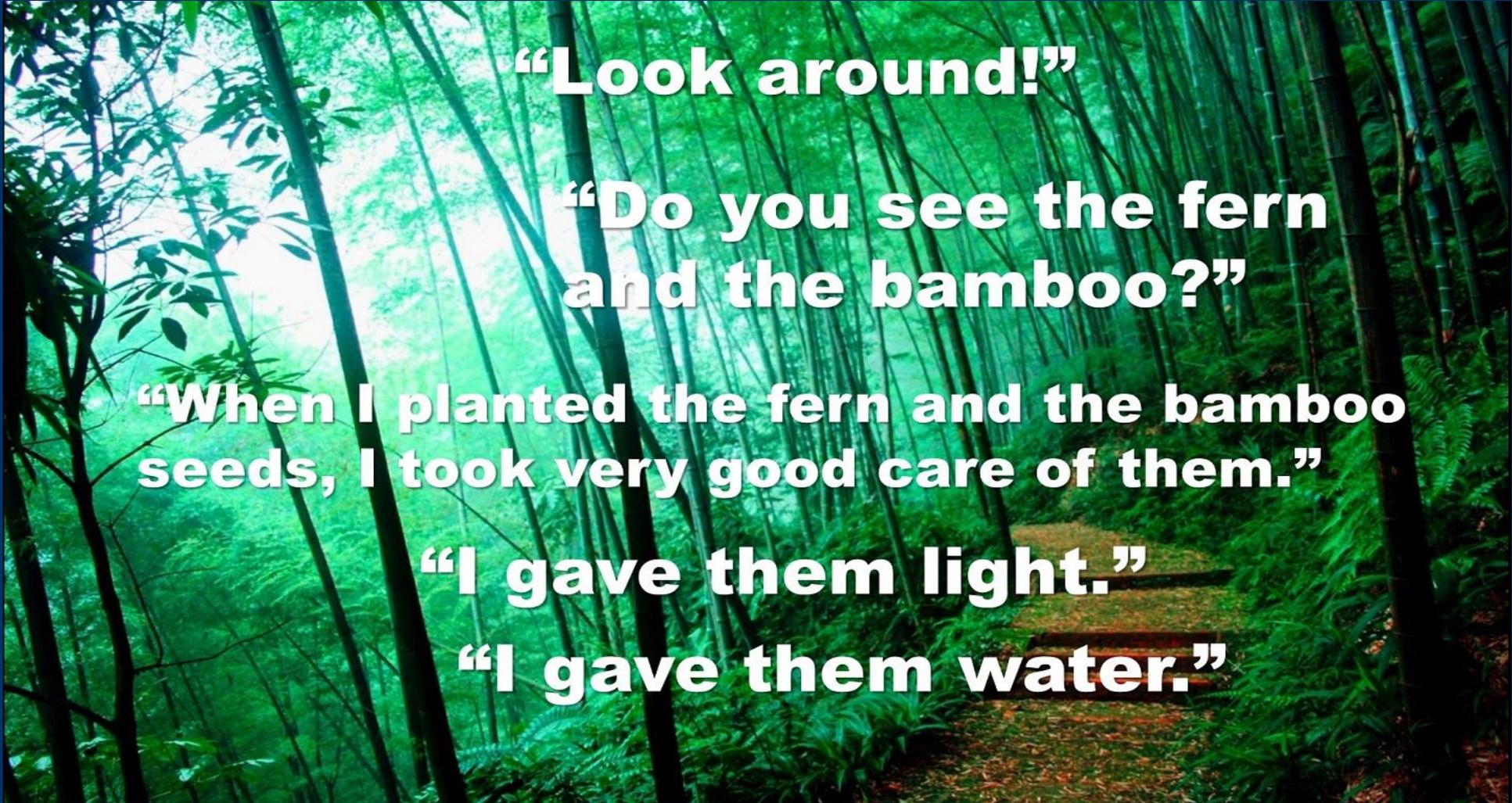
**“Look around!”**

**“Do you see the fern  
and the bamboo?”**

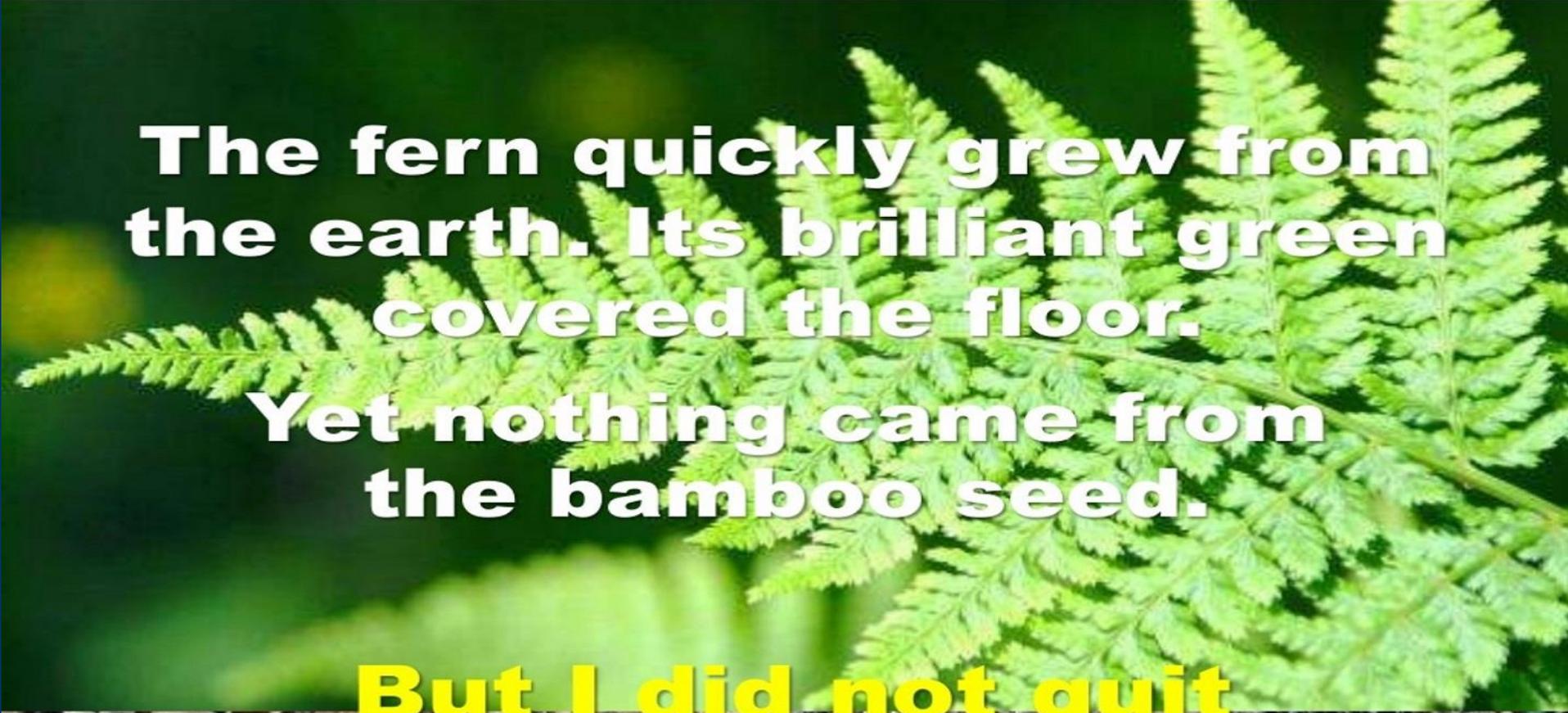
**“When I planted the fern and the bamboo  
seeds, I took very good care of them.”**

**“I gave them light.”**

**“I gave them water.”**



# **INTRODUCTION:**



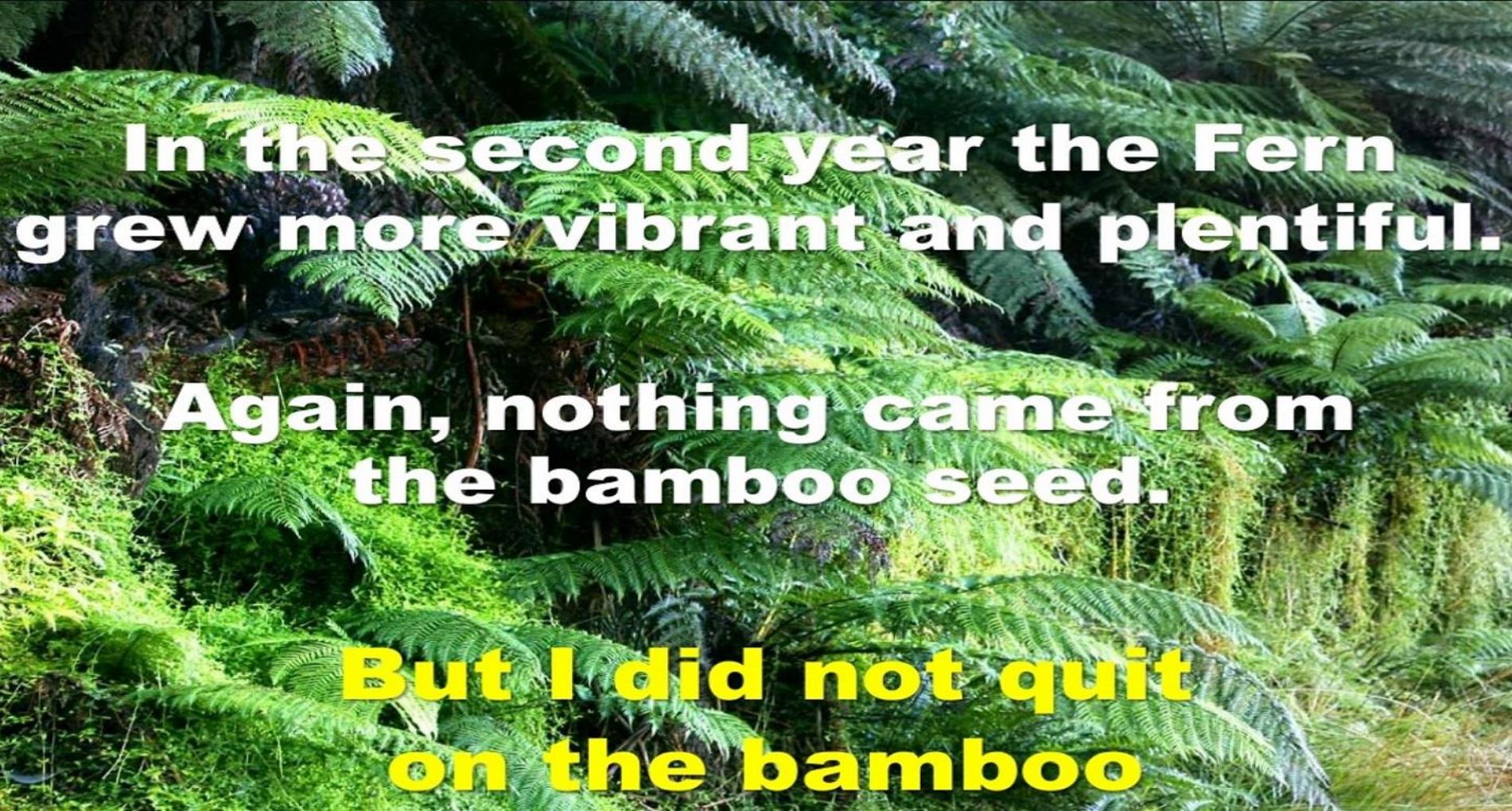
**The fern quickly grew from  
the earth. Its brilliant green  
covered the floor.**

**Yet nothing came from  
the bamboo seed.**



**But I did not quit  
on the bamboo**

# **INTRODUCTION:**

A photograph of a dense forest filled with various types of ferns. The ferns are in different stages of growth, with some showing vibrant green fronds and others appearing more mature and darker green. The background is a soft-focus forest, suggesting a deep, wooded area.

**In the second year the Fern  
grew more vibrant and plentiful.**

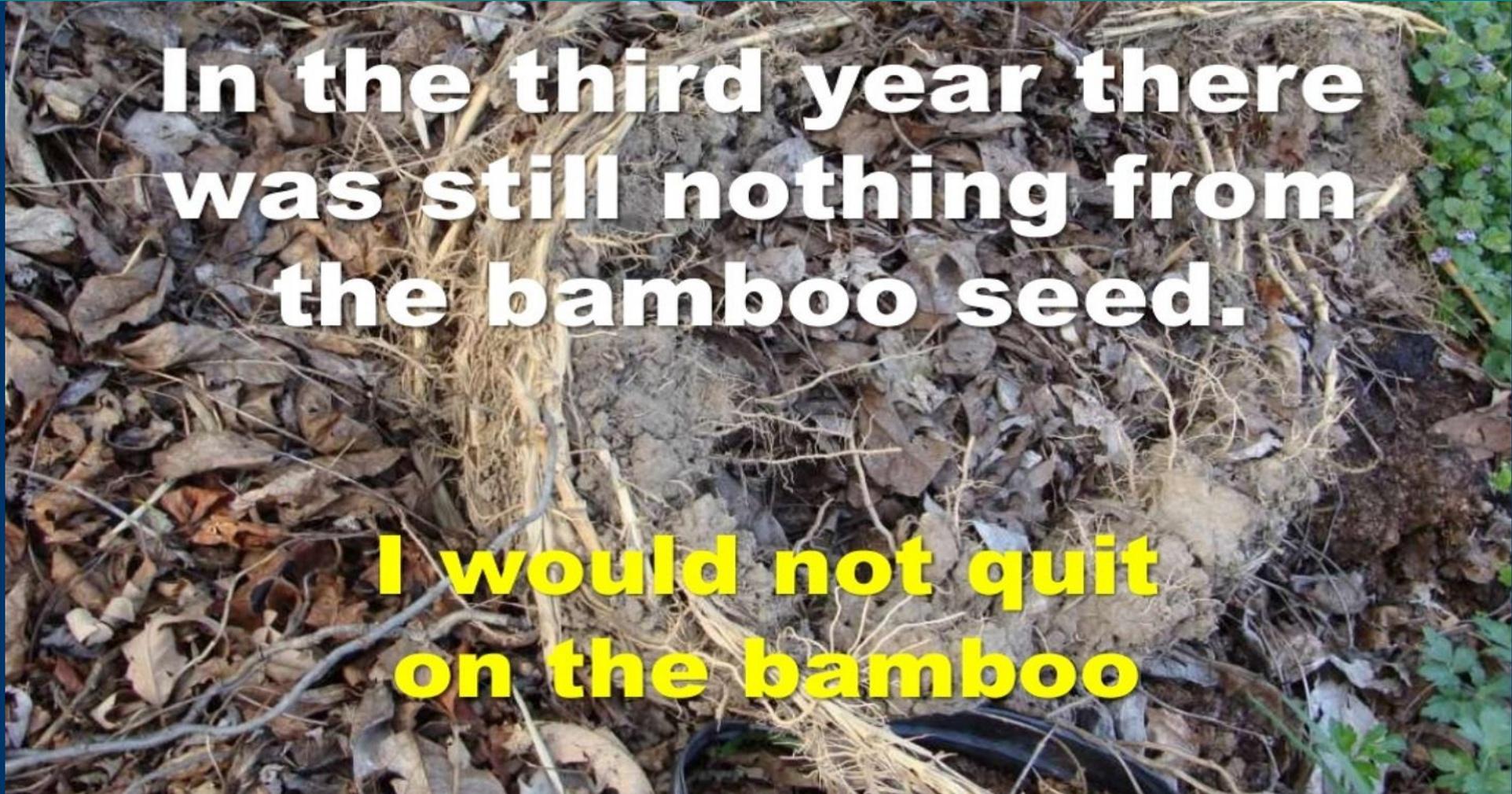
**Again, nothing came from  
the bamboo seed.**

**But I did not quit  
on the bamboo**

## **INTRODUCTION:**

**In the third year there  
was still nothing from  
the bamboo seed.**

**I would not quit  
on the bamboo**



# **INTRODUCTION:**



**In the fourth year there was still nothing from the bamboo seed.**

**I would not quit on the bamboo**

# **INTRODUCTION:**

**Then in the fifth year**

**A tiny sprout  
emerged from  
the earth.**



# **INTRODUCTION:**

**Compared to the fern it was  
seemingly small and insignificant...  
But just 6 months later the bamboo**

**Rose to over  
100 feet tall!!!**



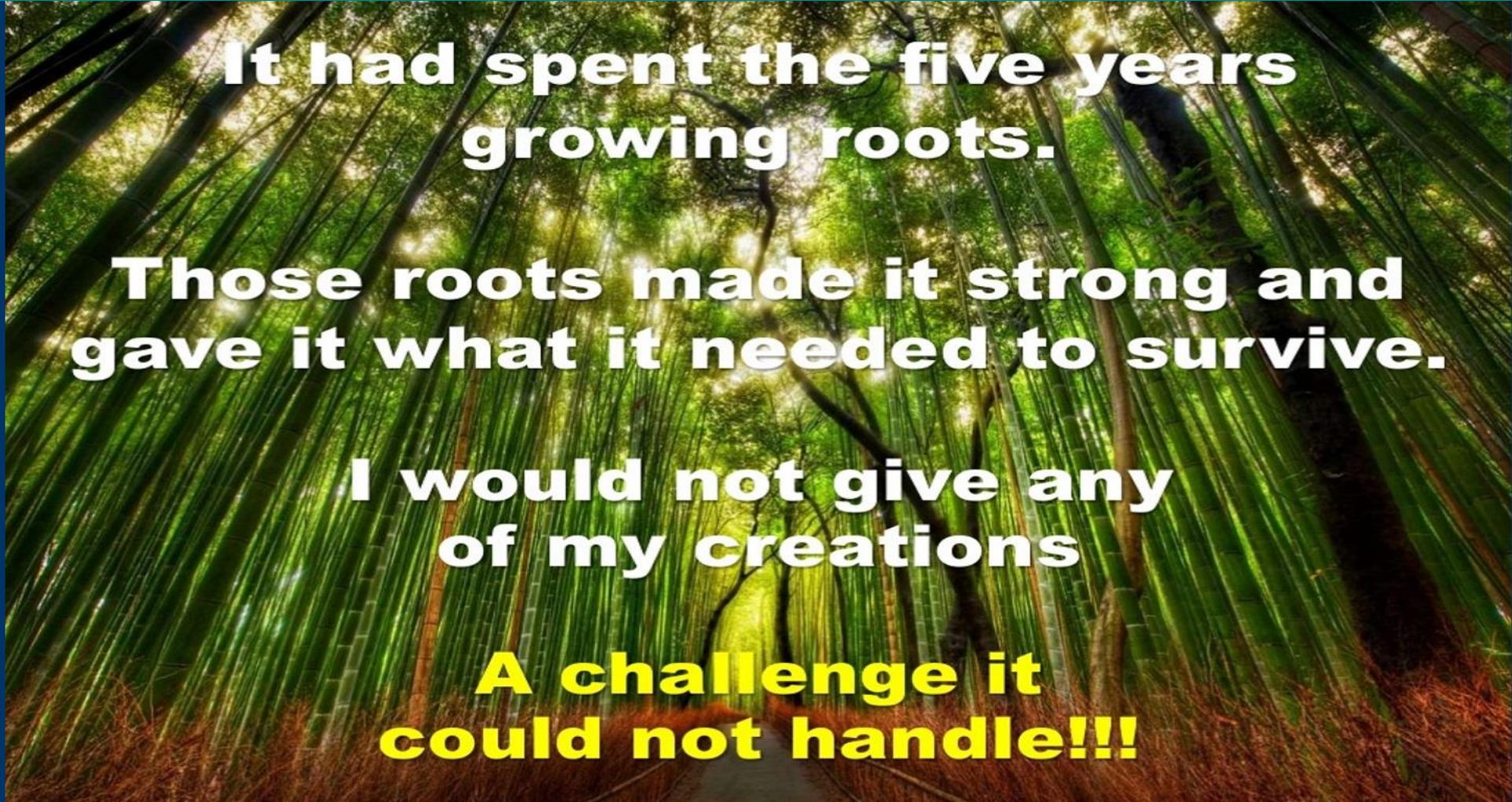
# **INTRODUCTION:**

**It had spent the five years  
growing roots.**

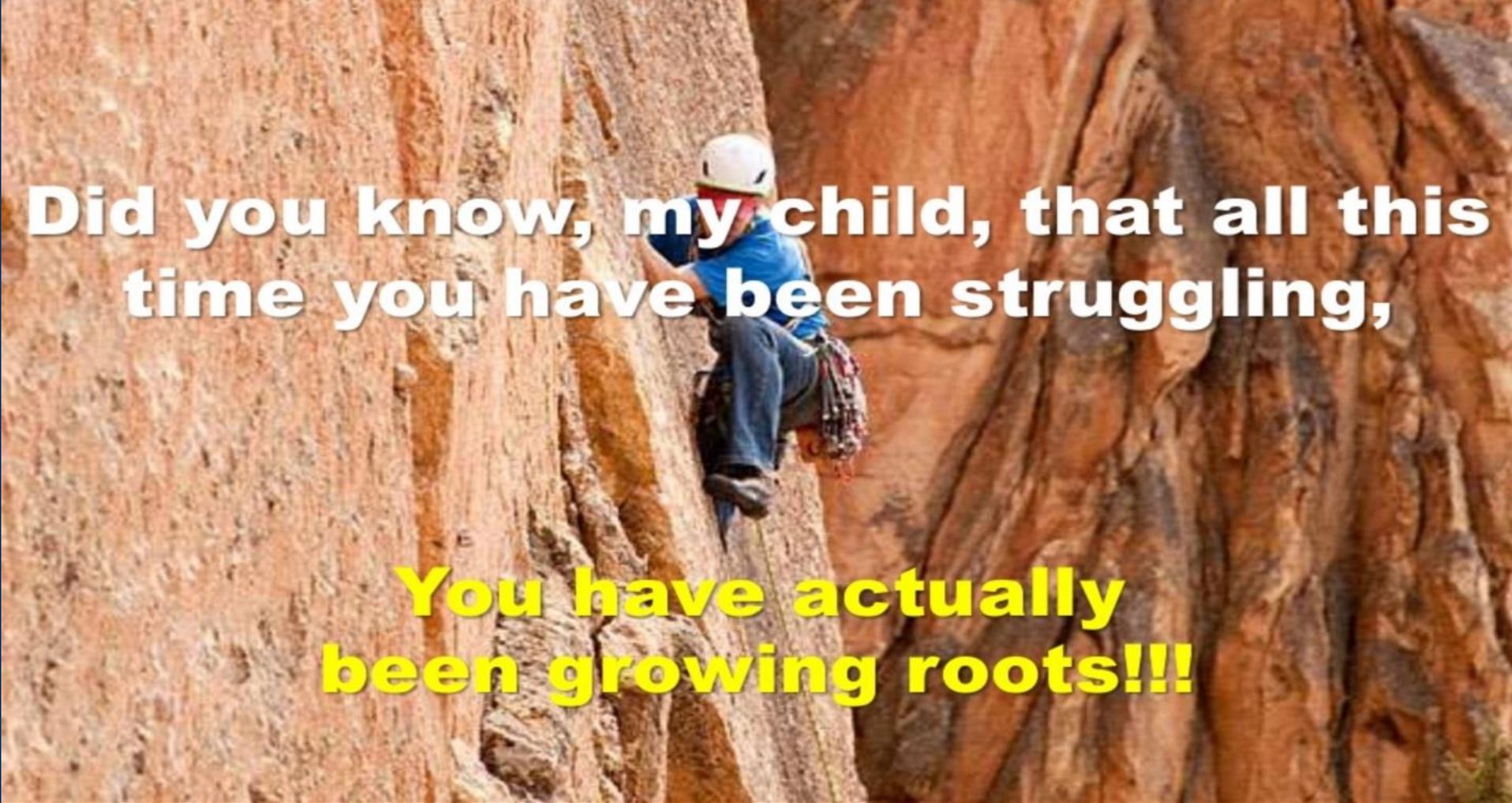
**Those roots made it strong and  
gave it what it needed to survive.**

**I would not give any  
of my creations**

**A challenge it  
could not handle!!!**



# **INTRODUCTION:**

A photograph of a person climbing a vertical rock face. The climber is wearing a blue shirt, dark pants, and a white helmet. They are positioned in the center of the frame, facing left. The rock is reddish-brown and has a textured, layered appearance. The background is a solid dark blue.

**Did you know, my child, that all this time you have been struggling,**

**You have actually been growing roots!!!**

# **INTRODUCTION:**



**I would not quit  
on the bamboo.**

**I will never  
quit on you!!!**

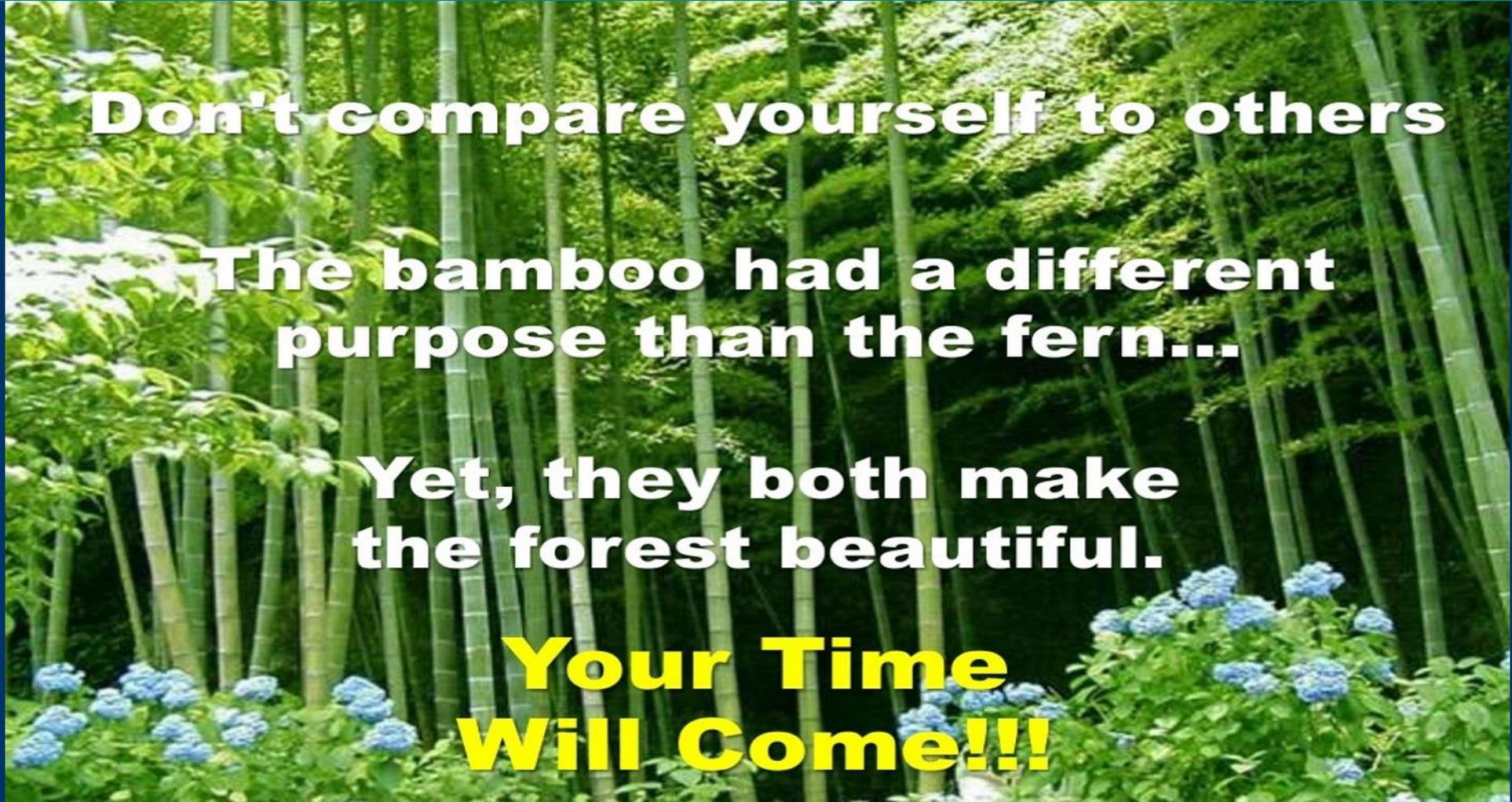
# **INTRODUCTION:**

**Don't compare yourself to others**

**The bamboo had a different  
purpose than the fern...**

**Yet, they both make  
the forest beautiful.**

**Your Time  
Will Come!!!**

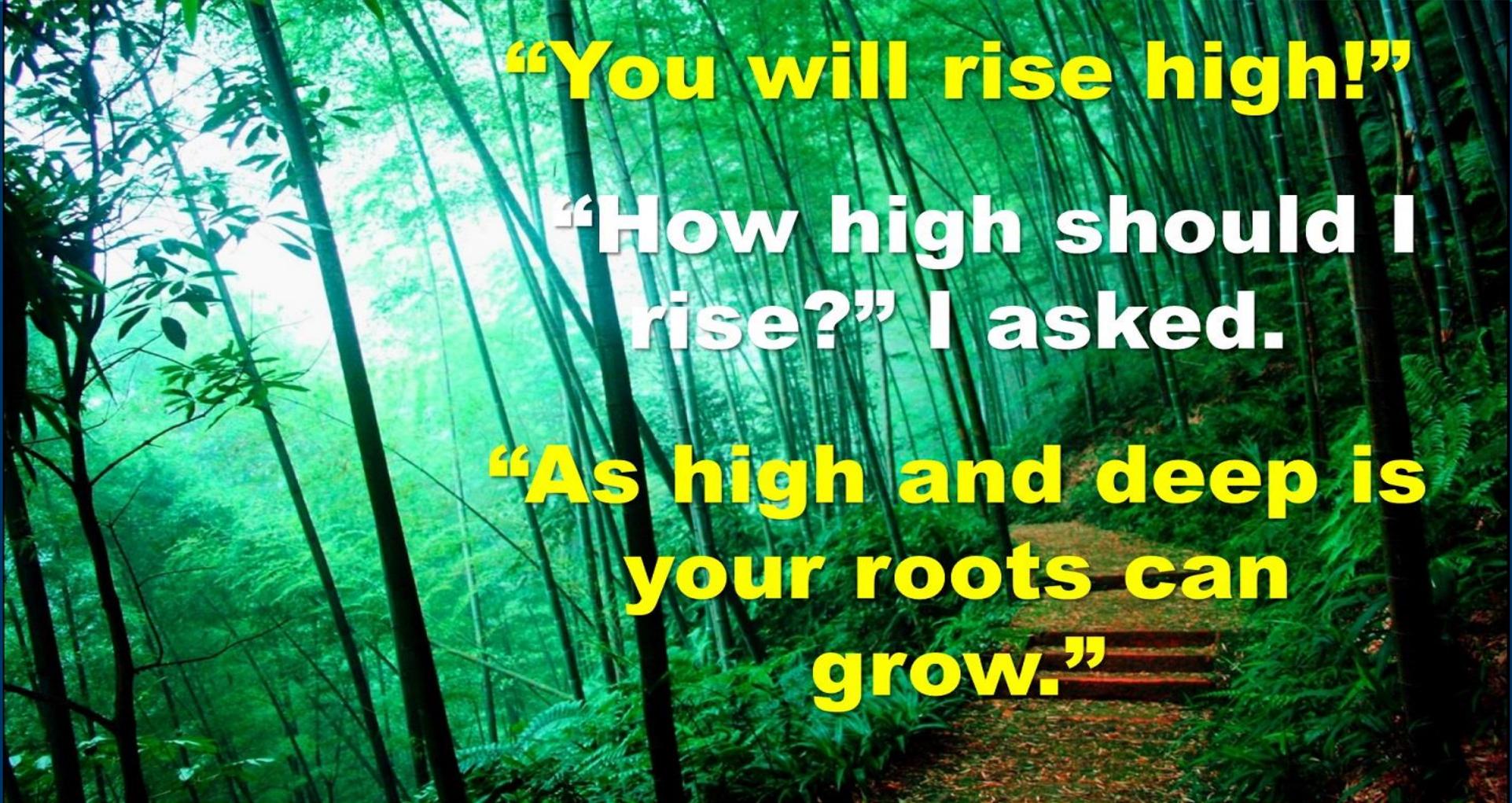


# INTRODUCTION:

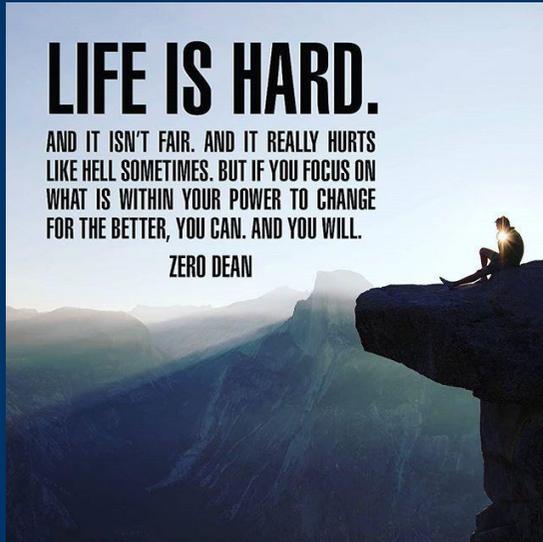
**“You will rise high!”**

**“How high should I rise?” I asked.**

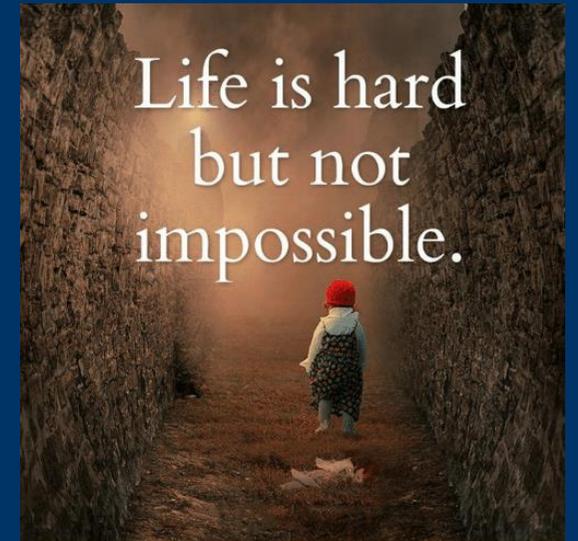
**“As high and deep is your roots can grow.”**



# INTRODUCTION:



Life is difficult and  
full of struggle and  
often drag on for a  
long time.



# I. THE PAINFUL RAIN



**You have a choice!**

**Crying in the rain**

**Singing in the rain**



# I. THE PAINFUL RAIN

*We find the cause of some of our rainy days...*

## A) *Flesh vs. Spirit*

**Gal. 5:17** *For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want.*

**Gal. 5:19** *The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; <sup>20</sup> idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions <sup>21a</sup> and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like.*



for the **FLESH** lusts against the **SPIRIT**  
and the **SPIRIT** lusts against the **FLESH**.

for these are in **OPPOSITION** to one another  
so that you may not do the things that you please

Galatians 5:17

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# I. THE PAINFUL RAIN

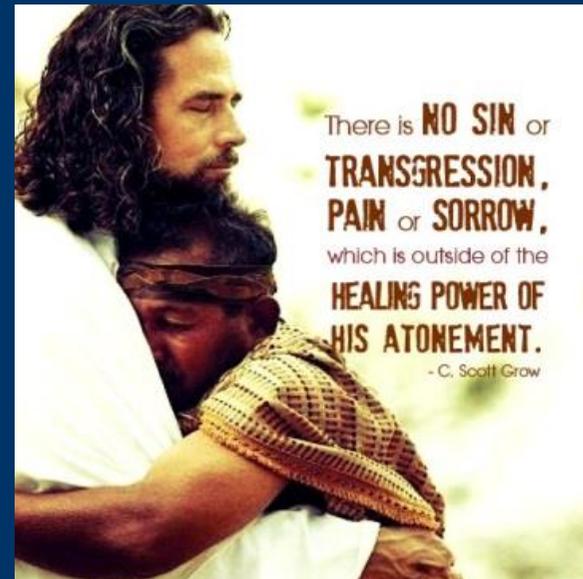
*No matter how muddy we get, there is cleansing.*

## *A) Flesh vs. Spirit*

**2 Cor. 7:1** *Therefore, since we have these promises, dear friends, let us purify ourselves from everything that contaminates body and spirit, perfecting holiness out of reverence for God.*



**1 Jn. 1:9** *If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.*



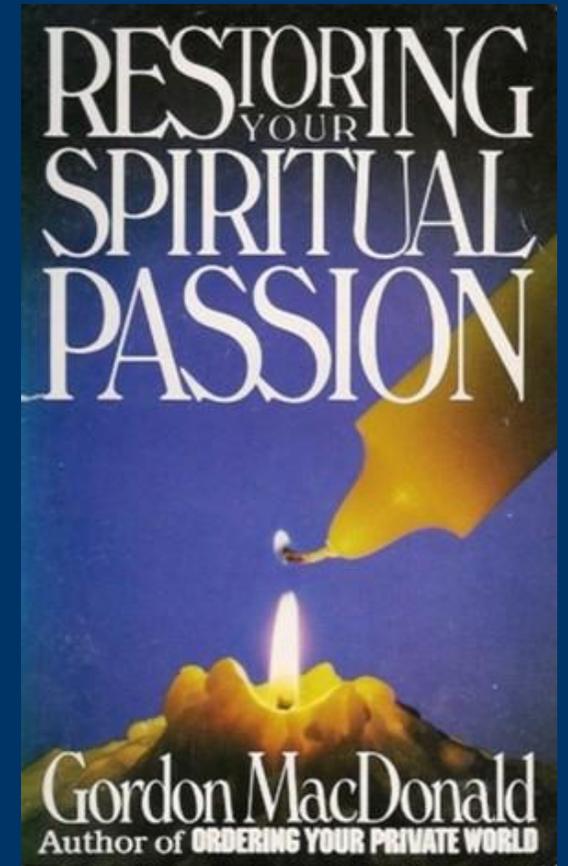
# I. THE PAINFUL RAIN

*No matter how muddy we get, there is cleansing.*

## *A) Christian conflict in church*



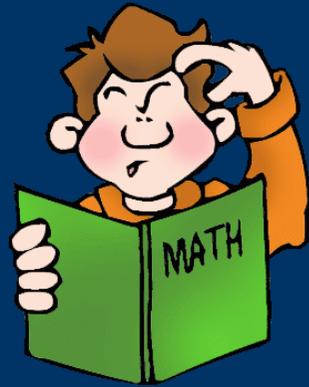
**2 Cor. 7:4** *I have spoken to you with great frankness; I take great pride in you. I am greatly encouraged; in all our troubles my joy knows no bounds.*



## II. THE JOYFUL SONG

*A) Four Misconceptions of rainy days*

*Flaw # 1 When you become a Christian, all your problems are solved.*



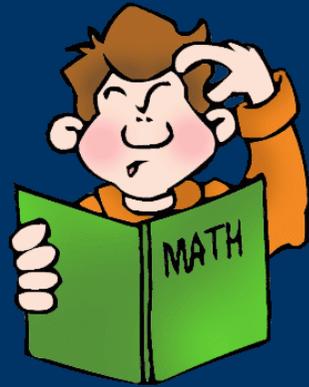
Problem Solving



## II. THE JOYFUL SONG

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Problem Solving



## II. THE JOYFUL SONG

*A) Four Misconceptions of rainy days*

*Flaw # 2 All the problems you will ever have are specifically addressed in the Bible.*

**GOT**  
QUESTIONS?  
The Bible has  
ANSWERS.  
We'll  
help you  
FIND THEM!



## II. THE JOYFUL SONG

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## II. THE JOYFUL SONG

### A) *Four Misconceptions of rainy days*

**Flaw # 3** *If you're having problems, it's a sign that you're unspiritual.*



## II. THE JOYFUL SONG

*A) Four Misconceptions of rainy days*

*Flaw # 3 If you're having problems, it's a sign that you're unspiritual.*



## II. THE JOYFUL SONG



*2 Cor. 7:7 and not only by his coming but also by the comfort you had given him. He told us about your longing for me, your deep sorrow, your ardent concern for me, so that my joy was greater than ever.*



***B) Two Secrets of learning to sing in the rain.***

***1) Denial of difficulties complicates our lives.***

***2) Resentment of the rain stunts our growth.***

# CONCLUSION:



The next time it rains, stop, look, and listen.

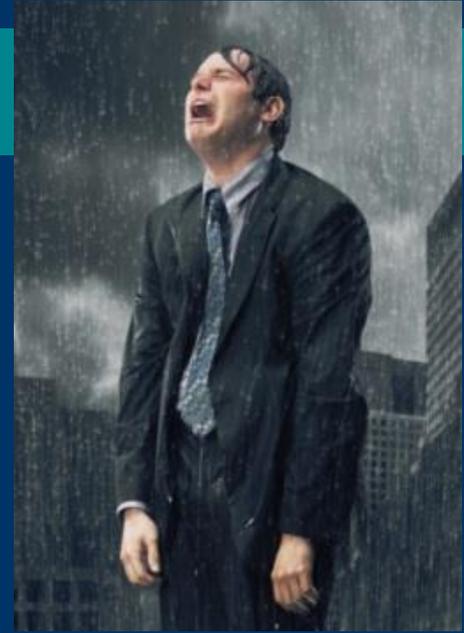
**A) STOP feeling sorry for yourself or blaming others.**

**B) LOOK for lessons to be learned.**

**C) LISTEN to the silent lyrics from God.**



**Ps 40:1** *I waited patiently for the Lord; he turned to me and heard my cry. <sup>2</sup> He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand. <sup>3a</sup> He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God.*



# CONCLUSION:



*Joy Is Like The Rain*

*I saw raindrops on my window,*

*Joy is like the rain.*

*Laughter runs across my pain.*

*Slip away and comes again,*

*Joy is like a cloud.*

LIFE ISN'T ABOUT  
WAITING FOR  
THE STORM  
TO PASS.

IT'S ABOUT  
LEARNING TO  
*DANCE*  
IN THE RAIN.



# CONCLUSION:



## *Joy Is Like The Rain*

*I saw clouds upon the mountain,  
Joy is like the clouds.*

*Sometimes silver, sometimes grey,  
Always sun not far away,  
Joy is like a cloud.*

LIFE ISN'T ABOUT  
WAITING FOR  
THE STORM  
TO PASS.

IT'S ABOUT  
LEARNING TO  
*DANCE*  
IN THE RAIN.



# CONCLUSION:



## *Joy Is Like The Rain*

*I saw Christ in wind and thunder,*

*Joy is tried by storm.*

*Christ asleeps within my boat,*

*Whipped by wind, yet still afloat,*

*Joy is tried by storm.*

LIFE ISN'T ABOUT  
WAITING FOR  
THE STORM  
TO PASS.



IT'S ABOUT  
LEARNING TO  
*DANCE*  
IN THE RAIN.

# CONCLUSION:



## *Joy Is Like The Rain*

*I saw raindrops on the river,  
Joy is like the rain,  
Bit by bit the river grows,  
Till all at once it overflows.  
Joy is like the rain.*

LIFE ISN'T ABOUT  
WAITING FOR  
THE STORM  
TO PASS.

IT'S ABOUT  
LEARNING TO  
*DANCE*  
IN THE RAIN.





# CG DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

**1.** *What are some rainy and sunny days of your life?*

*Why is life full of pain and disappointment and heartache?*

**2.** *What are some of the causes of our painful rainy days as listed in Galatians 5:17-21?*

**3.** *How does the conflict of the Spirit and flesh in us produce pain?*

**4.** *How does Christian within the church destroy the unity in the church?*

**5.** *How do fault misconceptions cause problems and sufferings?*

**6.** *What secrets do we learn from help us face problems and sufferings in life?*



**Scripture References:**

*2 Corinthians 7:1-7*