

## The Morning Dew

During the warmer months, I love to start my day off outside reading the Word, journaling, and praying. Usually, I'll spend the mornings sitting out on our little dock by the pond. And to get to the dock, I have to walk through the wet, dew-dropped lawn. Usually I'll just wear galoshes to keep my feet from getting wet. But sometimes I wear sandals or I walk barefooted out there, and my feet get cold and wet from the soaked grass.

This past August, I remember a very cloudy morning. It wasn't raining outside, so I decided to go out and sit on our little dock anyway and spend some time alone with God. I remember feeling very confused as to what I should say or do with God at that moment, so I just sat down and began to pray about that. I asked God to show me what I should read in the Bible. I sat and waited.

Moments went by, and it slowly started to mist. I hunched down, covering my Bible and my journal to keep them from getting wet. I sat there on the step, bent over, and silently got covered with mist. I wanted to stay out there; I hoped that the mist would stop, and that God would speak to me. After a little while, I felt that I needed to go inside and read there.

I made my way to my special prayer area, which happens to be one of our bathrooms – this may sound weird, but it works for me! I plopped down on the floor mat, leaned against the tub, and sat in silence; I was *longing* to hear what God had to say to me. After a little while, I almost couldn't stand the silence. I opened my journal and my Bible to show God that I was ready to listen and take notes!

More silent moments go by. I finally looked down at my already-opened Bible to see Hosea 14, and I read: “[God] will be like the DEW to Israel; he will blossom like a lily.” I was awestruck! I sat there, still slightly damp from the mist and the dew, thinking about how God wanted to be like that water to *me*! I had been so thirsty and so empty at times as I tried to do things on my own. It's like I had been trying to 'water' *myself* and just ended up dehydrated and miserable! Have you been there?

Friend, God wants us to grow (and growth isn't a one-time action...). He *wants* to fill us up and take care of us *because* he loves and delights in us! As you seek God out each day, He **WILL** be like the dew for you, and you **WILL** blossom like a lily!

Liz Reese



### Hosea 14:1-8

#### Repentance to Bring Blessing

**14** Return, Israel, to the LORD your God.

Your sins have been your downfall!

<sup>2</sup>Take words with you  
and return to the LORD.

Say to him:

“Forgive all our sins  
and receive us graciously,  
that we may offer the fruit of our lips.

<sup>3</sup>Assyria cannot save us;  
we will not mount warhorses.

We will never again say ‘Our gods’  
to what our own hands have made,  
for in you the fatherless find compassion.”

<sup>4</sup>“I will heal their waywardness  
and love them freely,  
for my anger has turned away from them.

<sup>5</sup>I will be like the dew to Israel;  
he will blossom like a lily.

Like a cedar of Lebanon  
he will send down his roots;

<sup>6</sup> his young shoots will grow.  
His splendor will be like an olive tree,  
his fragrance like a cedar of Lebanon.

<sup>7</sup>People will dwell again in his shade;  
they will flourish like the grain,  
they will blossom like the vine—

Israel's fame will be like the wine of  
Lebanon.

<sup>8</sup>Ephraim, what more have I to do with idols?  
I will answer him and care for him.

I am like a flourishing juniper;  
your fruitfulness comes from me.”