

NEWS

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Contact: holly nichols tabor
678-736-1482
snapshotsoflifebook@gmail.com

STORMS & SUNSHINE--THE SEASONS OF LIFE: September 24, 2009

It's been an incredible week. The first two days were filled with storms--torrential downpours that lasted for hours on end, after two soaking weeks of on-and-off rain showers--which created a historic flooding throughout most of North Georgia. It was incredible to watch and overwhelming to see the devastation such a natural thing as a "simple" rainstorm could cause. Then, the blessing of sweet sunshine--also sent by the Father above to help dry the gallons of water and help repair the damage caused by the storms.

As I watched the rain fall, I realized that the seasons of life are very much like the weather. There are periods of drought (as Georgia has also experienced in the past couple of years) when nothing seems to grow. No creative thoughts, no energy, no life. Just hanging on and getting by while the dryness continues. Then, there's the rain. In the beginning, it's refreshing...life-giving...earth-changing. Then it turns into a storm, raging...dark...menacing. A sky filled with black clouds, thunder, and so much darkness it weighs you down...threatens to overwhelm your very existence...washes away everything you *thought* was important in life.

Finally, when you think you can't bear any more, there's the sunshine...it peaks out shyly at first, not quite certain if you're ready for the full effects of its glory and brilliance. Then, it too, almost overwhelms you with its incredible beauty and energy...life-giving energy...joy...peace...an effervescent lift for your sluggish soul. Again you feel alive--truly alive--filled with the peace and energy that only the Son can give. It shines down on you, revealing all the things in life that are truly glorious and important.

You know that the sunshine won't last...the rains will come again. Also the storms and the drought. It's the circle we call life. In the midst of the storms, rain, and drought, always remember to hold on to the Light--the true Sun in this crazy, mixed-up world--the Son of the Almighty. And maybe, when the storms of life assault you, you'll be able to look up, see the Light, and find joy, and hope...and peace.

Just so you know, my sunshine this week was twofold: not only did the sun finally come out and help dry the rains from the ground, but I've been blessed with a totally doctor-free week! It has been a blessing I hope to not soon forget--and would love to relive as often as I can!