

April 6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>

## Rain: The Only Way to Grow

In this lesson you will learn three ways to allow Rain to mature you.

**Intro:** Matt 5:45- God sends the rain on the just and on the unjust. Is the rain a blessing or a curse? It can be either one or both. The rain makes things grow. This is true physically in nature and in our life's circumstances. We go through seasons of growth. There are seasons where it seems that it doesn't stop raining. The storms in your life, the rain in your life, and the times of suffering each season produces something better than before. God uses the rain to remind us that He has everything under control. His timing is better than our timing.

### I. Your Perspective of the Rain is Important

- A. God will allow trials in your life to help you grow up. In other words, you will never grow or mature in your walk with Christ without trials. God uses the rainy seasons of life to be your teacher, and make you into the person He has called you to be. Rain slows things down and makes things grow. Rain brings dead things back to life and sustains life for all creatures on Earth. Rain washes off the dirt and cleanses things (Eph 5:26).

### II. Your Response to the Rain is Critical

- A. Learn to make the most of the rain in your life. Embrace this rainy season of pain, difficulty, and discomfort. Tough times don't last, but tough people do. Become a person of perseverance and push through the obstacles 2 Cor 4:8-9). Don't waste your pain. Use the pain to come out stronger. Don't put a question where God has put a period in your life. Come out of the rain better instead of bitter. Allow Jesus to be Lord in your rain.

### III. Without the Pain of the Rain, there won't be any Gain

- A. God doesn't cause the pain in your life, but He will turn it around for your good. So, don't complain about the pain of your rainy season. The rainy season is developing in you; a heart of compassion, humility, and dependence on God. We were not created to float through life. The tough times create endurance and patience in us. Don't just go through the pain, grow through it. There is a purpose for the pain in your life (Jam 1:3:4).

### Discussion Questions

1. What has been your response to the rain in your life?
2. Do you "count it all joy" when you go through rainy seasons?
3. What was produced in your life after you went through some rainy times?