

Walking with God

By Abigail Rayn



The LORD has told you what is good,
and this is what he requires of you:
to do what is right, to love mercy,
and to walk humbly with your God.

Micah 6:8 New Living Translation

I enjoy taking long walks and finding quiet places where I can go to be away from distractions; to think through my stresses and problems, or to just contemplate life. Usually, I begin by grumbling to God, then I transition into telling Him how I think He should “fix” these things, eventually transforming my laundry list into valid prayers. Occasionally, shedding salty tears, I audibly cry out to Jesus for the really hard stuff. He soothes my worn soul like a loving father comforting a frightened child. Gently he guides me into seeing things through His eyes, lending a new perspective where I am able to see with clarity and a heart of love not hurt, and finally step into a cadence of praise and worship. It is in these tender moments, when I am able to take my myopic eyes off my problems and own self-absorption that the micro details emerge. I then see the delicate flower growing in a thin crack of the pavement. How, by some miracle, has it managed to escape being squashed by a car? The scent of newly mown grass fills my nostrils. A bald eagle captures my attention as it devours a deer carcass just yards away, while keeping an ‘Eagle eye’ on me, it shreds the sinew with a fierce hunger. Am I as hungry for God as that Eagle is for this meal?

My thought drifts to the bible account when two of Jesus’ disciples were walking along on the road to Emmaus. Jesus had been horrifically crucified and they were probably commiserating over all they had just witnessed. What would happen now? How would this terrible event impact their own lives? Fixated on their problem they didn’t notice the stranger

that had been walking beside them. It was only when they listened attentively to the man as he spoke that they realized it was Jesus! Can you imagine their surprise? They had spent time with Jesus. They knew him intimately, yet they didn't recognize him walking right next to them.

Lord, help me to see you more. Help me to see your presence as I walk throughout my day. Help me to not be so preoccupied that I miss opportunities in the moments you have set before me. Those things are the good works that you have prepared for me; to show love and mercy to others and to see the good and beautiful in everything. Amen