

# Story Time

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## And the Rains Came...

### **Let It Rain**

The Sunday morning before Bible school started, we were singing “Open your floodgates of Heaven and let it rain.” I was standing in the congregation thinking “Not a flood, Lord, but just send us some little ‘damper showers’.” Well, while our church was having Bible school that evening, the Dudley Baptist was having a baptizing in their church. The first man to be baptized was just about to go into the baptismal font when a big and loud crack of thunder was heard. It sounded like it was ripping the sky apart. He said to the people watching, “You all pray for me until I can get out of this water.”

### **The Man Who Prayed for Rain**

We use to have a male superintendent at Ebenezer Methodist Church. It came a real dry spell, so he prayed for rain. When the rain came where he was living in Dudley Shoals, it was a ‘gully washer’ and about washed his place away. He said, “Never again will I pray for rain unless I ask the Lord for a little ‘damper shower’.”

### **It Rains on the Just and on the Unjust**

I sowed some corn seed in the garden and it lay there for almost a month, not coming up. I told Billy Wayne that it said in the Bible that it rains on the just and on the unjust and we are the unjust, but we haven’t had a drop; it has been raining all around us. Billy Wayne laughed and said, “Mama, when the Lord thinks you really need rain, he will send it.” You know, the very next day, it rained a nice ‘damper shower’ and we got rain all through the month of July. Thank you, Lord, for the nice rains we received. All the corn came up, but if we don’t get rain in August, the pole beans I planted are going to choke the corn to death as they climb up the corn stalks. And both plants are perishing for water. Forgive me, God, for complaining so much. I know you will send the rain when you think we really need it.

### **Getting Caught in the Rain**

My mother and I sowed some Crowder peas in a patch close to the church. This was back when we lived in the log cabin. We had just finished putting out all the seeds when we heard the rain coming—and it was pouring. My mother told me to run fast back to the house or we were going to get soaking wet. So, we took off running and left the peas uncovered and didn’t get a chance to go back and cover them up because the ground was so wet.

When we went back several days later to cover them, they were all ready looking like small pea plants and all of them came up like this. I wonder if God ran us out of the pea patch in order to show us something. What do you think? We picked a lot of peas out of that patch that year.

*By Delores Campbell - October 2007*

