

Deep Water

Recently our family moved to a new home that had several orange trees located just behind the house. The watering system that led to the fruit trees had fallen into disrepair and leaked badly. A gardener looked over the situation and told us what the trees really needed was Deep Water. I told him that I wasn't sure what he meant. He explained that we needed to install a drip watering system that would slowly drip water around the base of the trees for many hours at a time and eventually it would penetrate to the roots below.

The digging to install the new watering system was very difficult and it was almost impossible to make a shovel penetrate the hardened ground. After the system was completed and was turned on, I was disappointed to see that the small drips of water seemed to just run off the parched ground and not sink in. It wasn't until the regularly scheduled watering persisted for many weeks, that things began to change and I noticed that the ground seemed to start absorbing the water better. One day I noticed that the ground around the trees it was no longer hard but instead it felt like a sponge, ready to eagerly soak up the water. The regular application of those little tiny drips of water had broken down the soil and changed its hard crusty properties. The trees soon became laden with more oranges that we could eat ourselves and we were able to share our harvest with others.

I recalled a time of great fruitfulness in my life when I had really been walking closely with the Lord. Unfortunately, I had let the demands of a busy life crowd the Lord out of the center and into a corner of my life. His Word seemed boring and uninteresting. Our pastor had encouraged us to begin to read the bible more consistently and I tried to do this and it was hard at first. I often had to read aloud to keep myself from falling asleep or losing focus but then things began to change. I began to enjoy it and look forward to it. My prayer life improved and I had a new appreciation for the bible. When someone would read the Word, I'd listen like I was enjoying a cool drink on a hot day. A regular daily deep watering by God's Word is what I needed and has changed my hardened crusty life back to the one I really wanted.

Thank you God for Your patience with me and Your wonderful Word.

PS 1:3 NIV He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers.

Richard Lewis
Pathway Christian Church
Riverside, CA