

"LIFE THROUGH THE LENS"



THE BEAUTY AND VALUE OF LIGHT

These flowers were so vibrant and bright I just had to take the photo, but just as I pushed the button, a puff of wind so small I hardly felt it moved some leaves, causing a shadow and darkening what had once been bright and vibrant. Fortunately, there were still enough blossoms in the sunlight. The wind dropped, the leaves moved, and I still got the image I aimed for. So why did I keep this one? To remind myself of the difference between being in the sunshine and being covered by the shade. There have been times when my life has experienced both, as most of us would have to admit.

When the shadows of sadness, loneliness, sickness, strained and shattered relationships, and financial worries dim or sometimes even blot out the sunshine in our lives, it is easy to question if the joys, the sunshine of life, will ever return. We wait hopefully for the wind to either change or drop off; the shadows move away and allow contentment to fill life again.

In such times, it is good to remember something Jesus said: "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest" (**Matthew 11:28**). His father, our loving heavenly father and God of the Bible, also said many years before the birth of his son, Jesus, "Do not fear, for I am with you; Do not anxiously look about you, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, and surely I will help you. Surely I will uphold you with My righteous hand." — (**Isaiah 41:10**)

People have asked, "But how can I know Jesus is always there when I need him?" I remember his words in **Revelations 3:20**. "Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they will be with me", which I believe answers that question.

Sadly, there are times when living in the light of Jesus and his love doesn't feel as appealing as living in the "spotlight" of ME and who I am and the glory I think I need. If this is the case, maybe you need to stop and talk to him about what happens when the winds of change blow an uncontrollable shadow in which your "self-light" cannot penetrate the darkness. AND remember his forgiving love can penetrate and shine through the darkest times and bring new light, life and direction to all who will accept it.

Cheers

Kevin