

Pastor Brian's
Mid Week Message
February 27, 2019

WHEN IT RAINS IT POURS

Many of you are aware of my initial vocation as one of the world's foremost liars. Yes, I spent nearly 30 years in the field of television weather forecasting, so as I always say; "I lied for a living". Now that I have been in the ministry for almost 10 years, perhaps doing my penance, I sincerely hope that any lies are much fewer and farther between. I do still keep my fingers in the weather world though as a volunteer precipitation reporter and severe weather spotter for the Tampa Bay office of the National Weather Service. Yes, I am a true public servant. Please don't worry that this will take up too much of my time though as, especially this time of year, it doesn't rain all that often, and in the past year I have yet to observe anything that by definition qualifies as severe weather. That would be wind gusts in excess of 55 miles per hour, hail larger than the size of a nickel or a funnel cloud or tornado on the ground. I'm a happy camper today as in my government approved rain gauge I measured 1.21 inches of rain falling from yesterday afternoon into the night. Any of you remember a guy by the name of Eddie Rabbit? His 1980s song "I Love a Rainy Night" is one of my all-time favorites. I played on YouTube for Kay last night...she didn't seem too impressed. The rain is a gift from God, and it falls on all ground, and all people, whether good or bad; faithful or unfaithful. God blesses everyone in this world whether we know it and acknowledge it or not. That's just the way He is. His essence is pure love. God rains down these blessings on us hoping that we will recognize His goodness in them and turn to Him in faith, trust, love and thanksgiving. Not that God needs our help in this matter, but rather that He graciously allows us to participate with Him, providing for us something truly meaningful to do. Our Lord calls us to point to Him and His loving kindness, especially in the presence of those who do not know Him as their Creator, Sustainer and Redeemer. He asks us to thank and praise Him in all creation, in all circumstances and at all times, and to proclaim His love to all people that He brings to us.