

The "Son" Flowers Story

"The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands." – Psalm 19:1



It all started after my wife's mother was called home to heaven, which prompted us to leave where Diane had lived her entire life (near Chicago) and move to Texas. I had known for years that I wanted to get "back down south" after retirement, and had researched and prayed for many months for guidance on where to go. While we knew we were being drawn to northeast Texas—spending months looking at far too many homes in far too many small communities—we happened on a little place near Cooper that our realtor had never heard of before. Upon visiting, we fell in love with the place and its potential promise. So; *"we got here as soon as we could"*—through God's guidance.

After moving to Cooper, TX in the summer of 2013, my wife Diane and I set off on a journey to find Commerce, TX. We had never driven west of Cooper since moving here, so finding where Hwy. 24 was located and what lay west of town was, for us, our new adventure for the day. As we started for Commerce, Diane and I drove through the square in Cooper and I commented that God sure blessed us by bringing us here to this peaceful little town, but I wondered aloud if this was God's divine guidance or just "happstance" that we found Cooper and Delta County. Well, it didn't take long for God to answer.

We had noticed lots of cardinals flying around our new home; and had commented numerous times that they were Mom's favorite bird. But on this sunny July afternoon, having just turned west onto Hwy. 24, God affirmed for us that we were indeed where He had led us. Just as we cleared town, ***Diane and I were awestruck to see what seemed to be over 300 acres of the most beautiful sunflowers we had ever seen.*** It was then that I knew God had answered our prayers, and that we were home, where God wanted us to be. We stopped alongside the highway and shed tears of joy as we praised God for bringing us to our new home. You see, sunflowers were Diane's mom's favorite flowers in all the world; and this wondrous sight was the confirmation we needed to assure us this was God's will for us.

And so began my daily devotionals, facing east towards the rising sun, longing to see the "Risen Son" who will appear brighter than the noontday sunflowers He blessed our arrival to Texas with. Diane and I are so pleased to be able to share these devotionals with our New Hope Church family. We all pray that God will bless you through the inspirational messages shared by our church family.

Jim Winger