

Instant Tea and Becoming “Steeped” in God’s Ways
By Bob Young
[borrowed and edited, original source unknown]

I do not care for instant tea. I do not like it. Jan brews our tea—by the gallon! We drink a lot of tea. She brews tea two or three times a week, perhaps more in the summer.

You may be familiar with the process. Glass container. The water must be hot but not boiling, the bags remain in the water long enough to let the hot water bring the flavor out of the tea leaves. That process is called infusion. (My mother called it “letting the tea ‘steep.’”) The right amount of tea leaves, in the right amount of water, at the right temperature, for the right amount of time, in the right kind of vessel. That pretty well sums up how Jan continually makes excellent tea! The result—the tea is in the water and the water is in the tea.

It strikes me that my spiritual life is very much the same. Some days I do not spend enough time immersed in God’s Word. God’s Word is not in me and I am not dwelling in it.

Some days I do not spend enough time with God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit to really sharpen my awareness of their presence as they dwell in me. Although they are in me, I am not enough aware of it. Some days, that I live in Christ and that I live by the Spirit hardly describe my reality.

The presence of God, the presence of Jesus, the presence of the Spirit, so that I partake of the divine nature and their presence permeates my being, this is not the result of meager time spent. It is the result of infusion—steeped in God’s ways.

Commit yourself to spend time in the Word each day. Commit yourself to leisurely prayer. Relish the moments, linger, share. Drink in the living water, avoid distractions, develop a deep devotional life, listen and follow.

Trust me, people can tell the difference.