

## Enjoying the Roses

Do you take time to smell the roses along the way? That age-old question should be considered from time to time in this busy world in which we live.

A woman (we'll call her Judy) told about her experiences with making this commitment.

Judy could take the freeway to work each morning and arrive instantly, nerves revved, almost before she is awake. But freeways are ugly. Instead, she takes the scenic route around several local lakes and starts her day recording mental pictures of sunrises, flowers, and people in various stages of running and walking.

Affluence and architecture notwithstanding, she feels that nature is the attraction – a chance for a city slicker to enjoy a little tranquility. The slower pace gives her the occasion to see a small troop of deer or watch the ducks and the geese depart for the winter and return for their spring activities. She recognizes and studies the walkers and joggers who are out regularly at the crack of dawn.



“I don’t know if I have a better workday because I sneak up on the job rather than race to it,” Judy muses. “On some mornings, I don’t see one thing that nature has to offer because the day ahead refuses to wait for me to get there, and I spend the entire ride making lists of little things to do in my head. But I do know that when I take the time to glance at the roses along the way, I feel more fortified, just like our mothers wanted us to be with a hearty breakfast, mittens and hats.”

Judy is right. Taking a few moments to thank God for the glories of His creation will make any day start on a better note.

*This is the day which the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it (Psalm 118:24).*

– Beecher Hunter