

Devotion, Week of August 30, 2026

Rev. Jeanne Simpson

It's time for porch sittin'. You know what I mean, because I'm sure you all had grandparents you visited where you sat on the covered porch. Didn't do much of anything – maybe shelled peas or cut up peaches. It was a peaceful time – not too much talking, and what was said didn't involve a lot of deep thought. The air wasn't too hot and at times you'd get drowsy. Sometimes as a child, I'd get antsy and have to go play, often in the river. Both of my grandparents lived on the same river, and it was cold even on the hottest day. We would skip smooth stones (which I never mastered) and wade around looking for little fish.

Jim and I had a wonderful front porch on our house when we lived in the Druid Hills neighborhood near Emory, with a porch swing. But what did we do when we built the house out in Gwinnett? Forgot about a covered porch. The first time it rained, Jim and I headed out to watch it, and then realized we had no PORCH! How could we have forgotten that!! He remedied the solution by building a gazebo at the end of the deck, and we spent every evening that the weather allowed sitting out there, rocking gently in the chairs, and looking around at the back yard. Not much talk, just a peaceful end to the day before we went and cooked dinner.

When we bought our lake house, we made sure we had a covered porch, and it is screened and goes the whole width of the front. We spent many an evening rocking in our chairs, looking at the lake, and not saying much of anything.

I hope you have a porch to sit on, where you can do not much of anything in the cool evenings. It's truly a gift from God to have that time to appreciate the day, the things in the yard that are blooming, and each other. So enjoy porch sittin' and be thankful for your blessings.

Jeanne