

The Author's Answers to the Questions for Adult Reflection

Winter Storm

1. Why is it a better story because the family had two days warning that the storm was coming?

Because life is best when we look forward—anticipating, imagining, inspired to picture heaven.

2. Why is it a better story because the family had to work to be ready?

Because it is always better when we ourselves have worked for what we have, when we have been involved in making us who we are. (That's the reason we are here before we go to heaven.)

3. Why is it a better story because they had to deal with a problem? (the power failure)

Because struggle makes us put ourselves into the work of our life.

4. Why were they called Godfrey's Woods?

Godfrey is from the German for "God's peace."

5. Why was the other family named Flores?

Flores is Spanish for flowers, a reminder that Winter is just one of our seasons. Also, Flores begins with "F" as in "family," a reminder that all of us were made to be one family.

6. Why was it important that there be a "nice" time together for the parents after the children had gone to bed?

Because an almost perfect storm experience calls for it, and because it is important that a story about faith not be embarrassed by it.

7. Of the three spiritual stories within the story—the father's first night's reflections, the conversation at the table on the second night, and the father's conclusions about the storm—which to you was the most important? Why?

The author thinks that all three were equally important in their way.

8. How was the family feast as it was described an especially good image of heaven?

The evening was almost timeless, everyone participated, and "everyone was satisfied in every way."

8. What would you have had at the family feast?

Many courses, some fried stuff, and a dry white wine.

9. What to you was the nicest moment in the story?

Though there were many... when the family made their first fire when the storm had begun for real.

10. What sort of event would provide for you a glimpse of heaven?

This story was my glimpse of heaven.

