

# Deadwood

Shortly before Mark and I left on our trip across America, I was taking a morning walk through my neighborhood. The night before a big wind storm had roared through our area, and as I walked I noticed little branches from the trees scattered

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I realized it was deadwood, branches that have died and are contributing nothing to the life of a tree. The wind made short work of them.

# What Deadwood Is God Knocking Out of Your Life?

The storms in our life can serve the same purpose. There are things I am dragging around with me that are weighing me down while contributing nothing to my overall health and life. I've noticed that when I'm going through a hard time, God usually prunes the deadwood from my life.

It could be a bad habit I need to be rid of, a relationship that is toxic, a commitment that is no longer God's will, a job that is passed its prime, or something else. **During this process it may feel to me that my life is littered with the remnants of things I once (or still do) value.** But if I cooperate with God, I'll soon feel lighter, more energetic, and ready for something new to replace the deadwood.

Don't despair! Make room for what is next.



*Jane*