

## Chapter 9 Did Someone Call for a Nurse



I never liked math in school. I barely made it through the minimum requirements and I've long since forgotten almost every formula I ever memorized. Heck, if I add or subtract anything over ten I have to take off my shoes so I can use my toes! So you can imagine my apprehension when I found out that understanding the numbers is an important part of beekeeping.

The queen is the royal mother of every bee in the hive and in the spring and summer a good queen will lay an average of one egg every 30 to 60 seconds. That's about 1500 eggs a day. (And you thought you had a houseful of kids!) The queen is an extraordinary egg-laying machine; but she's a terrible mother. Her sole job in the hive is to make sons and daughters. She walks across the comb inspecting cells to make sure they're clean and polished and when one meets her approval she lays an egg in it and then moves on, leaving those babies to be cared for by others.

What's a mother to do? She doesn't have time to bond with all those 1500 children. So she depends on other bees to tend to the kids. Those pint-sized caregivers are called "Nurse Bees." That's right, I said, "Nurse Bees." ...

Those "baby bees," who consume half their body weight a day, are carefully looked after by young Nurse Bees who, only a few days ago, were baby larvae themselves. These little insects will do everything they can to care for and protect their young. They know that newly born sons and daughters can't just be left on their own. They need nurturing.

The Kingdom of God should be advancing in the same way. God calls us sons and daughters — spiritual sons and daughters.<sup>1</sup> When we become Christ-followers, we don't just join a club; we're born into a family. The family design was so strong in the heart of God He used it as a template throughout all of creation — beginning with Adam and extending even down to the honey bee.

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<sup>1</sup> 2 Corinthians 6:18