

These Weeks on the Big Island: **OVERFLOW**

God's love overflowed to us in Bethlehem—and still does—this Christmas.

But we forget. So God uses anything He can to remind us of His overflows. One overflow reminder is this lovely play, *The Forgotten Christmas Carols*. You won't forget it:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AYKHURQXYbU&t=11s>



Mauna Loa, the world's largest active volcano, took our breath away in the last

weeks. We looked east from our side porch and were awestruck. She overflowed.

Ten full dump trucks of lava spurted out from her caldera every second.

God stopped the overflow from both Mauna Loa and Kilauea, our two active volcanos, on the same day.

We realize that their overflow was not for our destruction—it was a cleansing, cracking, a call to turn to Him... perhaps more.

New life will pop from those tiny breakages.

Mosses, ferns, ohia lehua trees—

All these, and more, thrive in lava cracks.

Perhaps our times of being overwhelmed are also meant for good. To mind the cracks in our heart; the little breakages, the humblings.

We embrace whatever's cracking us open—like hot lava, followed by a mighty rainstorm.

Go with God's overflows.

Then, one day,

others will walk through our rainforests.

Re-treading familiar soil, this verse “lit up,” like it was on fire from some inner lava flow—

*“Take on an entirely new way of life... as God accurately reproduces his character in you.”* Ephesians 3:22-23, MSG

I ask: what is this “take on”?

Answer: Choose to keep company with a Person who has a better take on life than you do.

As we walk and talk, little by little, His huge-mindedness cracks open my small-mindedness.

My declinations become His inclinations. i decrease; He increases.

Like an interior spring He effortlessly overflows into me (Isaiah 58:11).

In taking on God's way of being, we live life differently. Let Him Inn! Let Him Inn!—take in the lovely play.