What's a Barber?

What is a barber, worldly eyes see a haircutter.

Trained to sanitize and cut, sanitize and color, sanitize and curl and sanitize again.

All about procedure.

Graduation day, negotiate employment and step into more procedure.

Know the procedure; hone the procedure. Gauge client's response to procedure.

Give and take conversations, underlying goal to never offend, deep secrets shared at will.

The years pass, client's return.

New locations, clients follow. 25 become 50, 50 become 150 and double.

Advanced schooling for more procedure, business and behavioral studies.

Always focused and engaged, offering the perfect blend of talent and listening skills.

Creating the perfect style as patron shares insight into job, family life and travel.

Interaction by all, it's a social event, a meeting place, hugs and well wishes, friends are made.

Didn't see it coming, suicide claims a treasured client,

what was missed, what could have been said?

Things have gotten serious. No longer idle responses. Procedure and relationship turn to responsibility.

Reality of life hits, seeking an understanding, another diagnosed with cancer, another loses a son,

another a daughter, a family member battles a baffling disease.

Another considering divorce or perhaps a deeper

secret not to be told, no matter, love and comfort.

I reflect of my earliest years peering through local barber's front door, bibles on table for all.

My arrogant, youthful ways proclaim, "surely not a businessman, who would do such a thing!"

Thank-you Lord for Your immense grace for I have become that barber. Thank-you O'Lord.

Today my response is wise, my listening is sincere, no longer pondering what is a barber.

Procedure, relationship, responsibility rewards me with great understanding.

Today a barber filled with compassion, offering hope only the scripters can bring.

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