

Newsletter August 2021

From Heaven's Heart

In Time...Life will Throw You a Curveball

On Thursday, it was time for Andrea's long awaited shoulder surgery. When the pain first showed up last fall, her wonderful doctor suspected something more than the aches and pains that come with getting a little older. Remember last month's newsletter about getting older? All of us are...getting older! And if we are lucky enough and blessed to grow older, life will certainly throw us a curve ball or two or three...and curve balls are difficult to hit.

Having a good doctor is a wonderful blessing. Every time I pray for someone sick, I thank God for good doctors, caregivers and meds. Just like Dr. Luke was there to take care of Paul, our good doctors are here to take care of us. Andrea's very good, very smart and very caring doctor recommended a good surgeon who did a perfect job repairing Andrea's shoulder. I saw the before and after photos from inside. It was a mess before and a clear picture of a cleaned up and repaired mess afterwards. A picture is worth a thousand words especially when the doctor is speaking in a different language.

God is a little like Andrea's doctor and surgeon. He's very good, very smart and very caring...and he is the Master at taking the messes in our lives...some we cause and some that simply blow in like the wind and God wants to clean them up. Roberta pointed something out during our Tuesday Prayer meeting that is so true. God expects us to do our part, especially when we've caused the messes in our lives.

But God can do something our surgeon can't do. God designed our bodies to heal themselves. A miracle takes place. God does that all by Himself. When He's finished, we can see the before and after pictures. Amazing what He can do with any mess in our lives and we have the before and after as proof. We can see it and others can too.

Andrea had faith in her doctors and faith made the entire process work out for good and with little worry. It also takes faith in God for things to work out for good, with little worry. God always operates in your life by faith. And God wants us to set a FAITH Goal so that we can accomplish our dreams. Dreams are so important and they matter to God because He planted them in your heart.

The number one purpose of your life is to get to know God. We can't bear fruit in our lives if we are not staying connected to Jesus on a daily basis. Staying connected keeps building that close relationship God desires to have with His kids. You and I, we are His kids and He loves His kids, always has, always.

No matter the mess I cause in my life, God still loves me and when my relationship with Him is close, I know this, and my faith, with God's guidance that often comes from His word help lift me from the mess I've made and like the surgeon, He begins to clean up what has been damaged and causes pain while applying the right instructions for healing and for strength to restart my life to full recovery.

And like Andrea's recovery from surgery, she must have faith in the physical therapist while they work with her to a full recovery. And like God, they don't do it all. She gets home, she has a list of things/practices she must do several times a day. Some are painful but necessary to strengthen her arm. God also needs us to continue what He's doing and do those things everyday until we reach full spiritual recovery.

All of us know there are important things we need to do on a regular basis to keep our physical bodies strong. We also know there are things we need to do on a regular basis to keep our spiritual bodies strong...Reading and studying our bibles daily. Praying often...Attending church, seeking God's truth so we can apply what He tells us to our lives to maintain the close relationship He desires to have with us...always giving God all the praise and glory for all He is doing. We will do this if we make every effort to offer our lives...everything to Him who deserves no less than our best. Our lives should be the most important offering we give because of His endless, unconditional love and grace for us.

Do you know, really know how much God loves you? God never throws us a curveball unless there's an important lesson to learn from a swing and a miss.

With the deepest love for you...always,

Pastor Steve

PS Have you invited someone to church this week that needs a loving church family?