

Terri Schiavo

The most prayed-for person of all time?

JD Karlson, Modern-day Prophet, 2024

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On February 25, 1990, Terri Schiavo (26) lost consciousness and fell to the floor. For the next 15 years she was in a persistent vegetative state and was fed through a tube down her throat. In March of 2005, after being denied food and water for 13 days, she died.

Over this period of 15 years, Terri Schiavo became a worldwide phenomenon as people took sides; keep her alive in a vegetative state with hopes she'll recover, or let her die because she would not want to live her life in that condition.

Millions and millions of people prayed billions and billions of prayers asking the God of the Universe, the Great Creator to show compassion to Terri and heal her. God was silent. No one came to Terri's rescue. Why did God ignore the pleas of his children?

Terri Schiavo timeline:

- February, 1990. A feeding tube is inserted to keep Terri alive. Rehabilitation attempts followed by court challenges followed.
- October, 2003. (more than 13 years later) By court order, the tube was removed. The
 Florida Legislature immediately went into action and passed a law that allowed
 then-Governor Jeb Bush the authority to intervene. The tube was reinserted.
- May, 2004. That law was ruled unconstitutional by the Florida Supreme Court. More court cases followed.

2005

- February 25. A county judge again ordered the feeding tube to be removed. Lawsuits were filed, a stay was issued and the tube remained.
- March 18. Her feeding tube was disconnected based on the county judge's order.
- March 21. The U.S. House & Senate passed a bill that transferred jurisdiction of the Schiavo case to the federal courts.
- March 21. Then-President George W. Bush flew back to Washington from his Texas ranch to sign the bill.
- March 22. The U.S. Supreme Court sided with the county judge and the feeding tube was never again inserted.
- March 31. Terri Schiavo died.

Eight years after collapsing in her apartment, Terri's husband Michael Schiavo took court action to have her feeding tube removed. Terri's family objected to this and they fought him in the courts and later in public opinion. Many times the courts were petitioned by Michael to have the tube removed and by her parents to leave it in. There were also accusations between the two parties, each accusing the other of a variety of sordid behaviors.

Initially allies, these two parties became adversaries.

The amount of attention this case received from around the world was astounding!



I'm a person who loves statistics, a big baseball fan where statistics abound. If you could tally the number of prayers on behalf of Terri Schiavo over the 15 years of this ordeal, I'll bet she could be the most prayed for person of all time.

This was an international obsession. The Vatican got involved. It created unlikely alliances between disparate groups who were all fighting for the right to continue caring for Terri.

Can you imagine how many, many, many, and many more prayers were offered up to God?

Wouldn't this have been a great time for God to perform a miracle and heal Terri?

Of course it would have been a great time! That's why they were praying and what they were praying for. They prayed in FAITH for a miracle.

Yet God did nothing.

Ahhhh, c'mon, God! You say you LOVE your followers. They are your children. Based on the immensity of your power, this act would be nothing. It would be as if I excerpted my power to scratch a small itch or put on a sock or maybe even sharpen a pencil, but certainly no more effort than that.

And yet you did nothing. A loving father should have done something, even if it was only to inform those beloved children he was doing nothing, rather than to have millions and millions relentlessly petition him for 15 years.

That left those staunch believers quite sad and so they once again resigned themselves to, "Well, it must not have been God's will."

Matthew 17:20 (Jesus speaking)

"Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you." (NIV)

The End