

## To answer a few questions...

*Know therefore that the Lord thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations; Deuteronomy 7:9*

In recent weeks, I have had several people ask me how I have gotten through these last 6 or 7 months of chemotherapy treatments, the complications that have ensued and life in general with these things. Have I had periods of anxiety or fear? Have I ever questioned “Why me?”

Let me start with the last question first. A while back, maybe even several years ago, I heard a speaker who addressed this and I have never forgotten what he said. Don’t you ask yourself “Why me?” ask yourself instead, “Why not me?” and “If not me, then who?” One of my grandchildren asked “Why you, Memaw?” I replied with “Why not me?” and they looked at me in shock. Then I asked them “Who do you think it should be?” and they said “Nobody.” I went on further to explain that cancer happens to people all the time, people both good and bad. God knew I could handle it, so here I am with cancer.

As the months have gone by, my grandchildren have seen me decline through the chemotherapy treatments. Losing my hair, becoming weak, being unable to eat sometimes, unable to attend family gathering and celebrations...pretty much not being able to enjoy life as they knew it with me. But, I have used this as a teaching time; teaching them that the love of God transcends anything that this world can dish out.

Have I had anxiety and fear? Of course I have, being human how could I not? Those two things go hand in hand. One way to combat them is through knowledge. We fear what we do not know and become anxious because of the unknown. After the initial shock of being diagnosed with Hodgkin’s Lymphoma, I got on-line, looked up and read as much as I could about the diagnosis and treatment. My oncologist and chemo team gave me tons of printed information. I read it all. Including a cookbook to guide me through the best things to eat or not eat. Once I was armed with this truth and knowledge, the fear and anxiety subsided.

And, yes, there is my faith in God.

*For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts. Isaiah 55:8-9*

Not sure what He had in store, I just had to accept that the plans I had made were not His plans for me. There were plans to do some travelling that were cancelled; I was trying to get my writing out there by way of sales; looking to get some speaking engagements: planning for upcoming holidays and family gathers. None of this was to happen. Being a person always on the go, my life pretty much came to a standstill. Relying on other people for the simplest of things was not the way I had envisioned the next 6 months of my life would be.

God, however, knew it was time for me to slow down so that I could appreciate the world and the people around me. The 3 or 4 hours in the chemo transfusion chair every 2 weeks gave me time to write, uninterrupted. Not having the stamina to sit for hours and work on my website sales, I closed the “store”. God’s inspired messages should be free anyway, who was I to be trying to sell them? The writing I was doing in the chemo chair was God inspired and often times what someone else needed to help them in some way. They are all now free on my website, [www.connectingthelight.com](http://www.connectingthelight.com).

God also needed me to see how blessed I am with the people around me. The support I have gotten from family and friends, by way of cards, letters, e-mails, flowers and more, has shown me just how big a part I play in life. My husband, who has been with me through all of this, has been the biggest blessing I could have asked for. Doing the cooking, being my chauffer, maintaining daily chores and doing the grocery shopping to name just a few things he has done to help get me through this.

There is no way of knowing what the upcoming months will bring, but I do know I will get through them. With faith, with family, with friends and with knowledge, I can do all things.

*And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.* *Romans 8:28*

The next time you ask “Why me?” Ask “Why not?”

Blessing to you always,



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