

Weekly Health Update from Pastor Jim – Weekend of July 14 & 15, 2018

Dear Friends and Family:

I have been on chemo this whole week, and so far, so good. I am a little itchy but not bad, thank the Lord. I also have labs on Wednesday and I am curious to see where my numbers are since I have increased the chemo. I am attending Patient Education Seminar at the Cleveland Clinic on Multiple Myeloma. The speaker had two stem cell transplants, and I sure hope he tells us why, especially since my first transplant was not successful in ridng me of cancer.

In his letter to the Corinthians, Paul reminds them that God is so much above us, and that God has prepared for us of what he has taught them. He reminds them of the foundational truths of their faith. And, Paul assures them of a Helper who knows the heart of the Father, and therefore who will help us know what to believe and what to do.

⁹ However, as it is written: "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him"-- ¹⁰ but God has revealed it to us by his Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God" (1 Corinthians 2:9-10).

Maybe you, too, feel a little lost sometimes. We all do at one time or another. When that happens, it's time for us to *stop* right where we are, so we can listen for the voice of the Helper. Sometimes that comes through Scripture or a godly friend. Sometimes it's deep inside of us, and when we are still, we can hear that gentle voice.

Paul describes this Helper as a Counselor who knows the plans the Father has for you. He knows what you are trying to say as you cry out (Romans 8:26-27). He understands the difference between truth, almost truth, and lies, and He will always lead you toward truth (John 16:13). The Helper moves us beyond our own understanding. We are given a glimpse beyond our feelings. Beyond the circumstances. Beyond the chaos.

Whether we're trekking uphill, loving every minute, or crumpled on the ground in uncertainty, we can trust there is a Helper who knows who we are and where we are going. We may not know the exact destination of our journey, but we can take the next step with assurance.

For God knows exactly where we are, for He has never taken His eyes off us. Not for a second.

Love you all. Pastor Jim