



"HOW MARVELOUS, HOW WONDERFUL, IS MY SAVIOR'S LOVE FOR ME" (Chris Tomlin)

This song came to mind as I experienced God's absolute peace after being told that the physical problem I was experiencing was cancer. Jesus did tell us, "I am leaving you with a gift...peace of mind." (Jn. 14:27 LB) And he gave me confident assurance in HIM!

The follow-up appointment after surgery to hear the treatment I would be having, caused me a little more concern, making me perhaps even fearful. Now, let's see Shirley. What was that verse you taught your youngest daughter as a child? "What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee." (Ps. 56:3) Then I learned that because it was stage 1 and was contained, no further treatment other than 3-month check-ups was needed at this time. Thank you Jesus.

This has been a learning experience in prayer for me. It has caused me to pray more earnestly for those on my prayer list who are in the many difficult stages of cancer.

Knowing I was going to be on medical leave for an unknown period of time, I wrote a little note for Gail to send to my discipleship kids as they returned their quiz page during that period. Maybe you remember this: PBPWMGIFWY? (*PLEASE BE PATIENT WITH ME GOD ISN'T FINISHED WITH ME YET*) That puzzle was the basis of my letter aimed at keeping their interest up until I returned. It worked pretty well. I received many notes and drawings and get well wishes. I am now back in the office and keeping the line of communication to them open.

I have had lots of visitors this summer and fall. My granddaughter, Sarai, and her husband, Richard, from Phoenix came at a time when for some strange reason I had a run on mice. I had set out traps and caught nine. My Pastor decided it was time for pest control who apparently took care of it but not before one last one was running around my kitchen. I will never forget the picture of Richard chasing the mouse with a rolled up paper. Sadly, I missed the picture. If Bob were here, I am sure he would have made a sketch of the action.

I don't want to forget to thank my granddogs for visiting me in rehab and cheering me up. When I got home, my great-grandson, Grayson, plus Sadie & Minnie were there for me.



Minnie and Sadie



Precious



Grayson, Sadie and Minnie

A few weeks later, my son, Brian, his wife Denise, and their youngest daughter, Autumn came for a visit all the way from Phoenix. And what a wonderful week we had. BJ was able to have some time off to spend with his brother. It amazes me they could have so much fun cutting down a tree and fixing a car, but they did. Then one day, Brian insisted I should go with him in his truck while he was doing errands around town. Now his truck, mind you, is BIG! To get into the truck, he set out a step ladder just so I could get to the running board. The next step was to reach into the truck for a handle to pull myself into the seat. I made it! However, the entire trip I spent wondering how I was going to get down, but I managed that, too. I still wonder why he has such a big truck??



We drove through a patch of mud which splashed his very white vehicle. He insisted he needed a picture so he could tell people his cool Mom even went mudding with him. He probably won't tell them how small the mud puddle really was.



As I write this letter, I am overwhelmed with a grateful heart for you. You have been a prayer partner to me over the years as I shared my heart. It would be so nice if we could sit in my living room and you could share your heart with me. We could laugh and cry and pray together over the circumstances of life. Some of you have gone through the loss of loved ones, hurricane disaster, illness, etc. and I would love to hear your experiences of joy in knowing Jesus and how God has blessed as you share the Gospel message with others.

You are my friend and I thank God for you.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Shirley".

Shirley Friedl

