
Life-changing circumstances

She was congratulating herself on almost attaining the age of 82, enjoying a healthy, happy and productive life, and still able to perform all the routine 'normalities' of running the family home and social outings. She was so thankful to God for His blessings and knew He had been with her during her life, in all her highs and lows. Then disaster struck when she had a very bad fall and shattered the top of her femur and surrounding bones, resulting in prolonged surgery and a long rehabilitation programme.

God's compassion

She was warned that 33% of older folk with this injury did not live beyond 12 months, and her mental state took a deep plunge. She knew that God was aware of her worries, her panic that she would never walk unaided again and be useless in so many areas of her life, and she also knew that there was only one course of action, that of prayer, and ongoing prayers to God, knowing that He is a compassionate and loving Father, and trusting that the outcome of all this would be in God's hands. Her faith strengthened, and she came to be able to let go, give it all over to Him, and be content. Further surgery and another long rehabilitation, and life started to look good once more.

Empathy

During the long periods of inactivity, plus fear of losing her independence and becoming 'old' and useless, of bolstering up her spirits, she realized that she was on a new learning curve. Always impatient and somewhat intolerant of others not getting things done as quickly as she would have, the lessons of patience and tolerance were brought home to her; when once she dismissed the slow, awkward movements of older people tottering along on walkers or using walking sticks as something that she did not have to worry about, their fear of falling not her concern, she could now feel for them, but these things did not hit home – then.

God healed her – and lessons learned

Primarily though, she realized that God in His graciousness had healed her, to the point she could now walk unaided, no limping, no pain, and she had gradually taken control of her day-to-day life once more, preparing meals for visitors to enjoy with she and her husband, and being able to venture out to shop once more. Each duty is done now willingly and happily and thankfully for she is aware that it is so good to be able to perform these duties and given thanks to God that she can carry on striving to improve her life and be more conscious of her daily behaviour and speech. She is more considerate of others, where once she thought what she was doing was enough for the and has developed a softness in her demeanour and a thankfulness to those who have helped her daily, putting up with her short temper and frustrations. Her family have assured her they still love her and are amazed she has come through this ordeal so well, but she is quick to point out that God was the healer and helper, to whom all praise be given.
