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Sacred Stories

Never Alone



spirituality

Suggested Sacred Text

“Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor my covenant of peace be removed,” says the Lord, who has compassion on you.

Isaiah 54:10

Looking back on the past six months, I’m in awe of God’s grace and mercy. To make a long story short, I was diagnosed with a brain tumor in spring 2017. I’m a hospice nurse, and I believe my ministry is to be with and support patients during the most difficult season of their lives here on Earth. After my diagnosis, I worried and wondered if I would be able to continue to care for my patients in the way that they needed me to. I soon realized that God had a plan.

I had brain surgery on May 23, 2017, a date forever ingrained in my heart. That day, I felt the hand of God upon me. I knew that God would be with me, no matter what happened, and the peace and comfort of that was incredible. Words don’t even come close to describing it.

When I was able to go back to work, my first patient was an elderly woman who had Alzheimer’s disease. She was the sweetest of the sweet and we had an instant connection. Her daughter, who was her mother’s primary caregiver, was completely overwhelmed. While the mother was admitted to our hospice program, I sat with the daughter and held her hand as she cried.

You see, we medical professionals want to fix things; but often, there is nothing to fix. What happens during a person’s dying season is very natural and beautiful. I’m humbled to be present and part of that season with our patients, now more than ever before.

imagine
your **Best Self**

As the weeks passed, my sweet patient showed signs of decline. Early one morning, her daughter called and asked that I come. Clearly, my patient was making her way home.

The daughter and I sat at the bedside and shared stories about her mother's life. There was a moment when we stopped talking and watched as hummingbirds surrounded the flowers just outside the bedroom window. They stayed for a while, and it seemed that time stood still. Soon after, my patient peacefully took her final breath here on Earth.

Death does not always come as a tragedy. I believe that my patient reunited with her beloved husband and all the other loved ones who had gone before her. The angels of our Lord were there to meet her, and there is no doubt in my mind that she received her crown of jewels upon arrival.

I know that God intended for me to care for that patient; it was not a coincidence. My experience with her and her daughter confirmed in my heart and soul that through it all, God never leaves us.

I've been blessed; my brain tumor was removed successfully, and pathology revealed that no cancer cells were present. My daily walk with God has been magnified, and I grow each day through new experiences as a hospice nurse, witnessing the peaceful Lord who has compassion on us. I am grateful for God's never-ending mercy, which makes our possibilities endless.

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Questions for Reflection

Have you had an experience of feeling God's hand on you?

What effect did it have on your life?

How would you describe God's plan for your life?