

Cuernavaca Newsletter

May, 2011

May 2, 2011

Dear Ministry Partner,

What a Horrible Experience!!!!

I watched a 76-year-old man suffer from so much pain following surgery. The room was very hot, with little ventilation and the outside temperature was around 90 degrees F. The surgeon had taken out two large prostate tumors around 12:00 PM that day. There were several things I noticed going on that weren't right about his medical care, which shouldn't happen in a busy up-to-date hospital. This man was dead by 9:50 PM and I was in shock!!! There was no equipment to revive him, nor was there a code blue team. I thought I was living in the dark ages!!!

No. This is the 21st century here in one of the busiest tourist places in Mexico, Cuernavaca! I begged the nurse to give him something more for pain. I begged for them to run the intravenous fluid faster. I got a pillow to turn him, as he had been on his back for hours. What else could I have done?

I could not sleep for the whole week. This is the father of one gal in my small group and we had prayed for this surgery. We prayed for \$3,000 USD for this surgery. I prayed that morning for no complications. I prayed that evening for God to ease his pain and for wisdom to the health care providers.

I was angry. This man did not have to die. What I witnessed was very poor surgical management. There was definitely no practice of aseptic technique. Two family members were allowed to walk inside the operating room in their street



Angie Velasco

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clothes!!!

I found myself praying..."Dear God, please have mercy on this surgeon. I pray for his salvation. I pray for comfort for R and her family. Give me wisdom as to what you would have me do in regards to this horrible experience. Help me to listen to Your voice and obey."

As the days went by, I thought of Romans 8:28 (NKJV) that says, "And we know that that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose." I will not see all the good things God is doing in the midst of this horrible experience, but I did see some:

1. My small group was united in helping R raise the money for her dad's surgery. We were all brokenhearted with the news of her dad's death, but all pulled together one day after the death to cry together and console each other. We spent one hour to pray for R and her family. Lots of tears, but lots of bonding too! Praise the Lord! (PTL)

2. We have been praying for her eldest brother to come to know the Lord. He has a hard heart towards spiritual issues. The Lord softened this brother's heart and he even requested for Christian hymns to be sung during the funeral.

3. Our Women's Ministry team had been praying for the Lord to break our hearts, for the things that happen here causing pain in God's heart. My heart definitely had been broken for the injustice done to poor people. This is not pleasing to God. I have started to do a prayer walk every week with one gal in my neighborhood for God to move in miraculous ways to bring justice to the many poor people here in Cuernavaca.

4. I love the story of Joseph in Genesis. He was thrown in the pit, the prison and the palace, but through it all scripture says, "The Lord was with Joseph..." (Genesis 39:2). I know the Lord was with me, protecting me from any car accident the day of the surgery and the hours before and after her dad's death while I drove many ladies who came to the small clinic to comfort R and her family. Like Joseph, who did not fully understand what was

going on in his life, I will not fully understand all the horrible things I see here, but that is why Scripture says, "For we walk by faith, not by sight" (2 Cor. 5:7) and Hebrews 11:6 says, "And without faith it is impossible to please Him."

May the Lord help me to continue to walk by faith as I lead a brokenhearted small group due to the death of R's dad. I know He is faithful.

Thank you for your faithful partnership.

Thank you,

Angie Velasco
