

Thursday - March 14

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding.

Proverbs 3:5

For a long time, every morning, I would thank God for the gift of life. Then, in 2013, something happened that made my prayer more poignant. I was stopped in an expressway construction zone when I was rear ended by a car going 80+ miles per hour. There were no skid marks, which showed no brakes were applied. My minivan was hurled forward. My friend Dave and I found ourselves looking at the ceiling because our seats had broken. Dave could not feel his legs. He said "Goodbye my friend" and passed out. I thought he was dying! That's when "angels" appeared.

Two men jumped into action and stabilized Dave while another "angel" appeared next to me and held my hand while we waited for Life Flight and the ambulance. We learned later that the two men were off duty EMT's!

I walked out of the ER with a whiplash, whereas Dave couldn't walk and is still paralyzed. Both of us feel blessed to be alive! Our Toledo church always gave "Prayer Bears" to those hospitalized. We asked that the other driver's family receive one also. The family wrote such a heartwarming note of gratitude, thanking God for us and for our prayers for their son.

Grace given...Grace received!

The driver of the other car never regained consciousness and died 3 days after the accident. He was just 23 years old.

God's grace comes to us as we live through grief. The more we accept grace from God and from others, the more we can share God's grace. We don't have to understand it, but somehow it makes our relationship with God more poignant!

Tim

Prayer: Gracious God, thank you for the GIFT of today. Guide my thoughts, words and actions as I receive your grace and pass it on. I look forward to opening another PRESENT with you tomorrow! Amen.