

## Wednesday - April 1

*Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.*

*1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (NIV)*

I have never been a type A personality, but I still felt in control of my life. You know, that self-assured feeling that as long as I made good decisions for myself and my family, all would turn out okay. Oh sure I believed in Jesus, called myself a Christian, and prayed to be able to make all the right choices, but I was driving the bus.

Then things started to happen that I couldn't control. My mother died unexpectedly, one of our daughters was raped, my father died after suffering with cancer, and then my husband was diagnosed with chronic leukemia. I couldn't fix any of it. I was angry and lost. A friend showed me that the only thing I could truly control was how I reacted to each life changing situation. I needed God to be able to change my natural reactions. I needed humility to turn over control of my life to Jesus. I cried and prayed and prayed and cried some more.

Joy entered my spirit. Gratitude became my focus. God had opened a window in my soul through which I could see His goodness first and foremost. The next time my husband had a life threatening reaction to chemotherapy I did what I could. I thanked all of his caregivers as they treated him. When I was told twice in 12 months that my husband was dying, God led me to gratitude for the medical team and for all the years of marriage we had.

God was in control the entire time and my husband survived and is in remission. Jesus drove the bus so much better than I could ever have hoped to.

Nancy

**Prayer:** During this season of Lent, may our hearts be humble and filled with gratitude that Jesus gave His life for us. And may we all ask Him to take the wheel. Amen.