

Monday - March 2

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Proverbs 3:5-6 (NIV)

I can't remember a time when I didn't want to be a nurse. My mother tells me that even as a young child I would play nurse and take care of my doll patients using Band-Aids and candy pills to fix their aches and pains. As a high school senior, I sought employment at a care center near our home. That is where my love of nursing really developed, and I could not imagine doing anything else. I was confident in God's presence leading me down this path.

Twelve years into my nursing career I was restless. I am not sure what drew me into applying for a position with Hospice, but this decision forever impacted my journey of faith. The responsibilities at Hospice were very different and difficult. I learned to deal with middle of the night phone calls, dying patients, and grieving families. However, I learned more from the patients than they ever learned from me. Being part of a dying patient's journey was a privilege. I was overwhelmed hearing their spiritual experiences and stories. Many told of a sense of oneness with God. They realized their journey was taking them back to the one who sent them. I fully felt God's embrace during these moments. It was a period of great spiritual growth for me.

I still don't understand suffering. I still have much to learn. But I do firmly believe God has a time and a plan and we will all leave our earthly bodies. Until that day comes, I will continue working daily on my journey to know Christ more.

Karen

Prayer: God, thank you for walking with me, for teaching and leading me in all life's decisions. Help me to learn and trust in Your guidance and continue to direct me to the right path. Amen.