

Kingdom Moments

Christmas Eve's Gift of Healing from the Mitral Valve Prolapse
Laura and Marcus Sanders
December 24, 2023

<u>Marcus:</u> I am Marcus and this is my wife, Laura. We are part of this wonderful family at Mountain View Community Church. I was the pastor of Pearlridge Foursquare Church in Aiea. In the first week of the New Year of 2016, Laura's body started shutting down. I rushed her to the emergency room where she was admitted into the hospital. Laura was diagnosed with a rare autoimmune disease called **Myasthenia Gravis**. It is a disease that blocks the signal from her brain to her muscles. If the disease progressed, there was a possibility of her heart also shutting down. The Lord told me, "The Church is my Bride. Your wife is your bride. You take care of your bride, and I will take care of Mine."

Five Sundays ago, after the awesome weekend of the **Apostolic Summit, Pastor Rob** shared the prophetic revelation that **Linda Quinn** texted him saying, "**God wants to heal those with autoimmune diseases and among other conditions, heart issues.**" I asked Laura if she wanted to go up, and without hesitation we went up together to the prayer line. Pastor Rob then asked the **prayer warriors to come up to pray** for those in line. **Iris Faulkner and Ivy Kitamura came to pray for Laura.**

<u>Laura:</u> Before I go into my testimony, I want to say how much I love this amazing love of my life. I have had forty wonderful years of marriage, doing life together with my best-friend, my husband. I love him so much. However, he is the number two of my loves, second to Jesus. But he is okay with that because I am second to Jesus in his love life also. We have done everything together in sickness and in health.

God has been SO GOOD. We have both been relatively healthy except for the usual flus and colds. We have been like **two peas in a pod, holding NOTHING back**; **surrendered to Jesus** and willing **to be used in ANY way He pleases** to use us. Together, our prayer is this: "LORD, I want to be used by You. Use me in any way you like so others can know Your Son Jesus too."

The more we love our God with our whole heart, might, and soul, there is never a dull moment in life. Jesus did say that in life there will be difficulties, challenges, trials, and tribulation; BUT to be of good cheer and be encouraged! Follow His example. He overcame. We too can overcome (John 16:33).

God loves when we are willing to surrender completely and pray this way, because then He can do the impossible. God always answers our prayers when we trust Him and not get in the way. When we listen to His directions and allow the LORD to LEAD, MIRACLES and ANSWERED PRAYERS are so tangible and possible.

Well, when Pastor Rob Gross asked me if I was willing to share my testimony two Sundays ago on December 10, I accepted with **joy**. I knew the enemy would try hard to stop me from sharing my testimony. **Three days later at 9:59 pm, something frightening happened.**

(Christmas Eve's Gift of Healing continues on page 2.)

(Christmas Eve's Gift of Healing continues.)

<u>Marcus:</u> Suddenly, Laura started to get weak and started to collapse with pains in her stomach. Was I going to lose my wife? I practically had to carry her, as she collapsed in our lazy boy recliner.

All she could say was, "Honey, call Mama." I called my mom on the mainland, and we prayed in the Holy Spirit for healing. During prayer, my wife arose and said "I am healed! Thank You, Jesus!"

Laura told me later that **she felt like her life was leaving** her and her **blood pressure was getting low**. **After her healing she started to shake in the Spirit** — a joyous and wonderful experience! **The enemy could NOT succeed. God is greater and mightier.**

<u>Laura:</u> Since 2013, I carried a **heart issue called Mitral Valve Prolapse** (which means the valve in the heart does not close all the way, so there is a swooshing sound when the doctor puts her stethoscope on my heart area). The **onset was due to the Myasthenia Gravis autoimmune disease that the doctors detected in me in 2016.**

Because of the Mitral Valve Prolapse, I was very careful and stayed away from anything with caffeine, like my very favorite, chocolate!

The autoimmune disease was activated in the season when we were taking care of my mommy who was cruel with her words and actions toward me because of the dementia in her last days. Also, during the same season, the neighbor came over one night and threatened me. All these extra stresses stirred an autoimmune disease that stole my smile. Literally, one side of my face drooped as if I had a stroke. The doctors said, "We may have to induce a coma" because I had difficulty swallowing and choking with my saliva. I was admitted to the hospital and ended up in there for twenty-one days. My precious husband stayed by my side, slept on the uncomfortable hospital chair all those days.

One of my life verses is Jeremiah 29:11:

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

In other words, God is for us, NOT against us! Trust in the Lord God as LORD of your life, AND NOTHING is too hard for you and Him to overcome together!

Well ending up in the hospital and being handed the verdict of "inducing coma" may seem like there is nothing to rejoice about. However, **I counted this experience a joy** because God used me to share the love of God to over a hundred doctors and nurses, patients and receptionists, dietitians, and cleaning ladies.

Any one I had access to tell, I told these precious souls that "God's love for them is REAL and GREAT. He sent His only Son Jesus to die in their place 2000 years ago to save them. He wants to help them in whatever they are going through because He loves them so much and wants them to know His love. If they will accept Jesus into their hearts, they too will make heaven their home when they take their last breaths here on earth."

(Christmas Eve's Gift of Healing concludes.)

So, as I had prayed, "Lord, until You are finished with what You want to do in and through me concerning the Myasthenia Gravis, I will gladly and faithfully carry it out."

Well on that Sunday, five weeks ago, when everyone and Iris and Ivy prayed for me, God's grace so faithfully confirmed in my spirit that I AM HEALED!

I believed and knew in my heart that **I** can now enjoy my favorite chocolate. Still, I felt God's wisdom say, "Keep on eating as I did all the years of developing a good eating habit like Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego, who ate a strict but healthy diet." So, after nearly ten years, I ate my favorite chocolate truffles. Now I can! I loved it! But I promised my God, "All in modesty, I will keep eating healthy."

There is no sure way of knowing whether I am suffering from Myasthenia Gravis, except when I go down and am exhausted or with double vision. But there was one sure way to know whether I am for certain healed of the Mitral Valve Prolapse. I went to my **yearly visit to my doctor on the 7**th of this month. She went through my test results for my blood work. She was so pleased at my results. My results are stellar – from blood pressure to cholesterol wellness. I told her that I went to get prayed for my heart issue at church and I believe I am healed. But will you please check me to confirm my healing?

My doctor said, "Your heart is perfect!" No more Mitral Valve Prolapse!

How wonderful our God is! He says to all of us:

Ask and it will be given to you;
seek and you will find;
knock and the door will be opened to you.
For everyone who asks receives;
the one who seeks finds;
and to the one who knocks,
the door will be opened.
(Luke 11:9-10 NIV)









