

Hearts of Love

Tom & Debbie Tillman "to touch the world for Jesus Christ"

A free monthly publication of Hearts of Love Ministries.

Volume 26, Issue 09 © September, 2018

Hope for the Best, but Prepare for *not the Best*...

Hearts of Love is a non-profit ministry, dedicated to spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ whenever and wherever we find open doors. Our first priority is to glorify God and lead whomever possible to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. Please pray for us faithfully. We need your prayer, and we appreciate it more than we could ever say. Please consider us an extension of your ministry in this world, and support us with your prayer as such.

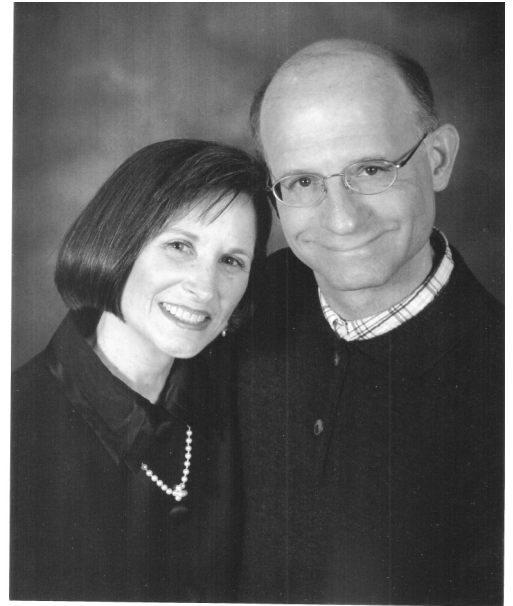
**May God richly
bless you!**

Tom & Debbie

Because what we think is the best doesn't always come for God's children and what we think is not the best, often does.

Since January I've (we've) been dealing with a health issue. In January we discovered my (Tom's) PSA level (Prostate Specific Antigen), a test for prostate health, has been elevated. Normally, it should stay below 4. Above that can indicate a problem, possibly prostate cancer and if it reaches 10, it's usually a cause for real concern. Two of my three brothers have had prostate cancer. My test result in January was 6.7 and a week later it was 6.9 so they took a biopsy which turned out to be negative for cancer, but the PSA continued to rise up past 10. So, a few months later, they did an MRI which showed what they called an 'indeterminate lesion' that had a good chance of being cancer. So, a couple weeks later, last week, they did an ultrasound and another biopsy. This time, with the ultrasound and the MRI, using a robotic device, the doctor was able to go right to the mass and take several biopsies from it and also several more from all around it.

As you might imagine, for the past several months we've been hoping for the best but preparing for the worst. I've thought about and prepared myself for the eventuality of having cancer, of going through surgery or radiation or chemotherapy, of losing my hair (I guess that wouldn't be such a problem for me), of the pain of surgery and recovery, the hassle of pain medication and detoxing from it, of the disruption of certain important bodily functions... yes, I've been thinking a lot about a lot of things I didn't used to think of much at all. I've also been thinking about people we know



*He has committed to
us the word of
Reconciliation.*

*Therefore, we are
Ambassadors for Christ.*

2 Corinthians 5:19,20

who have cancer and other physical challenges and we've been praying for them more... more earnestly and more often. Imagining myself having to go through some of these things in the near future, has caused me to imagine some of what they are going through now which has caused me to care more about what they are enduring... to visit them, to think how I can be of help to them and to pray for them.

While we were waiting for the doctor's report on the biopsy, we received word that our friend Mike was close to dying. We have been praying for him for some time as he has been battling an aggressive form of cancer. His doctors have continued to try new and different treatments but so far, nothing has worked. Finally, with most avenues having been exhausted, it seems that the time for him to close his eyes and wake up in the presence of the Lord *might* be getting closer. We've prayed every day, for a long time now that God would heal him but so far He hasn't; till now, that hasn't been His plan for Mike or for Sheryl, his wife.

God doesn't always heal nor is it His plan to always heal, no matter what we hope or what false teachers may teach. God's will for His children now, here on Earth, during this time, is not always for health and wealth. We wish it was but it's not. We've also been praying for Al for a long time... he has cancer and other problems. He hasn't been healed, but we continue to pray that God would heal him. We pray for Brian and Lisa, for Connie and Linda and others.

We pray for Bill who has cancer that has gone into his bones and for Lori who the same cancer as Mike.

Mike, Al, Bill and some others have something in common... they haven't been worried or fearful. Hebrews 2 says, '... through death He (Jesus Christ) might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil,¹⁵ and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.' Unbelievers, those who don't know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, are afraid to die; they fear the thought of death.

Every person instinctively knows that God is real and that we are all accountable to Him, that each of us will one day stand alone before Him and we also all have an understanding of the reality of Heaven and Hell.

Along with trying to imagine what some of these friends are going through, I've also been thinking about Heaven, Hell and death... what will the moment of physical death be like, both for the believer as well as the unbeliever? What will it be like, that first moment in Heaven or in Hell?

The moment of death for anyone other than a true Christian will be terrifying. They will, after just a moment, wake in a dimly lit, hot, stifling place of fear and misery... the same place the 'rich man' was in of whom Jesus spoke about, *'The rich man and Lazarus.'*

The moment of death for a Christian will be an interesting one. There will be a split-second instant as if we were closing our eyes in a darkened place and suddenly opening them in a bright and shining place. I think about how soon it might be for Mike or for any of us. The hospital room we're in may be dimly lit and quiet. If we're conscious, we may feel some apprehension or anxiety and we may even try to fight our body's drive to finally give up and shut down but eventually our physical body will simply turn itself off. We will close our eyes and in an instant, we will be released from the confines of our physical body... our soul, the real 'us,' inside our spiritual body will immediately wake up in the presence of the Lord in a bright and shining place. Perhaps an angel will be with us, holding our hand when we wake up in the presence of the Lord... probably the same angel who has been watching over us all our lives... perhaps God Himself, by His Holy Spirit will be holding us when we wake up, but it will be an absolutely

We are so thankful for our radio sponsors so please do pray for them, and use their service. THANK YOU!!

Pray for and use our SPONSORS

Pray for the health and prosperity of our radio sponsors, their families and their businesses, as they help spread the Gospel. (area codes 503)

Shrum Pest Control	Kelly and Holly Shrum	314-3782
Tom Miller Remodeling	Tom & Linda Miller	777-9080
Minuteman Press of Tigard	Bob & Ruth Ann Davidson	620-5203
Carpets for Kids	Jeff & Katie Fagen	232-1203
Capacity Commercial Real Estate	Mark & Kim Childs	504-3298
Wellstone Wealth Mgmt LLC	Richard Brock & Greg Allen	594-1210
Huber's Café	James & Helen Louie, David & Cynthia Louie	228-5686
Infinity Countertops	Paul & Carol Lundgren	287-6877
Pietro's Pizza - Milwaukie, Hood River, Salem & Beaverton.....	Ray & Susan David	659-7770
Omni Realty Group	Richard & Rachael Osmon	649-1000
Uncle Larry's Pet Treats	unclelarryspettreats.com..... Larry Lindel	639-1743

YOUR BUSINESS NAME COULD BE LISTED HERE AS A SPONSOR...CALL FOR INFO!

instantaneous transition. Remember, Paul told us that we are somehow, even now, *already* seated with the Lord Jesus Christ where He is in the presence of the Father... that means that in actuality, we won't be transported anywhere... we are already there... all of us... all true believers. We are already in the presence of the Lord. 'But God, Who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, ⁵ even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), ⁶ and **raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus...**' Eph 2

We are already there! We don't 'go to be' into the presence of the Lord at death, but rather, we simply wake up to the fact that we are already there now! Our eyes will finally be opened to the spiritual realm... we will finally be able to see what has been all around us, all our lives.

At the moment of our conception in our mothers' wombs, God created us as 'living souls.' Each of us were born into a physical body which allows us to move in and experience the **physical realm** which is all that most people ever recognize. When we are *born again* by placing our faith and

trust in the Lord Jesus Christ and His finished work on the Cross, God creates for us a spiritual body as well, within which we are also able to move in and experience the **spiritual realm**, even though most of us never recognize it. But, just because we don't recognize the spiritual realm, doesn't mean we aren't in it and moving around in it at all times in the full presence of God Himself and of angels and demons.

So, when our physical bodies finally give up, we will simply close our eyes for a split second and then open them to **finally** see it all.

Just imagine what that will be like!

Those are the kinds of things I've been thinking about over the past 8 months. I haven't known what the biopsies would show. I haven't known whether or not I have cancer and if so, whether it was the more common prostate cancer which is normally slow growing and relatively easy to remove and treat or whether it would be a more serious and aggressive type which could turn out to be fatal.

I haven't been worried or afraid, neither has Debbie. We both know God is always in control and that He loves us completely, that we are in

His hands, that He will never leave us or forsake us and that we will be with Him and each other forever.

I will admit this, though: I would have been immeasurably more concerned and even afraid over these past eight months if we had been waiting to know the results of tests and biopsies on Debbie instead of on me. I admit it.

Over these months our constant prayer has been that He would heal me but even more, that He would glorify Himself in this, that He would do in each of us what He wants to, that He would draw us closer to Himself and daily form us more and more into the image and likeness of the Lord Jesus Christ, that He would be seen and magnified in us.

We've known that God is not limited to glorifying Himself only when He heals someone. In fact, He is often far more glorified in and through those He chooses not to heal like Fanny Crosby, the famous hymnist, or Nick Vujicic and Joni Eareckson Tada, the Evangelists or even Paul, himself.

He will glorify Himself no matter what. Perhaps you're wondering what the results of my tests were... **no cancer**.

Thank you for praying... keep it up!

You can touch the World for Jesus Christ... Please partner with us in these last days.
The Harvest is Great, but the laborers are few. Matt 9:38

Special gift this month \$ _____ Bibles for China \$ _____

Monthly \$ _____

Check _____ Visa _____ MasterCard _____ American Express _____ Discover _____

Acct # _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____ 3 digit sec. code _____ Billing zip code _____

Contact me regarding info for **automatic credit card contribution**.

Contact me regarding **Corporate Sponsorship** of Radio Ministry

All gifts are tax deductible!

How can we pray for you _____

Please make checks payable to:

Hearts of Love

Box 22800

Portland, OR 97269

Hearts
of Love



P.O. Box 22800
Portland, OR 97269

NONPROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE PAID
PORTLAND OR
PERMIT NO. 4184

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Please tell us if you want to be removed from our mailing list.



Hearts of Love Radio

Listen live at KPDQ.com

Sunday nights 10:00pm - 1:00am PST

KPDQ FM 93.9 and AM 800

Live Radio Call In:

503-786-9390 or 1-800-845-2162

Mail:

**PO Box 22800
Portland, OR 97269**

To support this ministry:

You may use

PayPal or

the cutout on pg 3

All gifts are tax deductible!

e-mail: heartsofloveministries@comcast.net