

Prayer Works!!

About a month ago, my friend Chuck from the Tampa area texted me a picture of a dog - it was a friend's (and ex-neighbor's) dog, who was having surgery and he wondered if I would contact this lady (Becky) and let her know I'd be praying for her dog. I got her information and made contact, and we actually shared a few texts and emails talking about our dogs.

The next day Chuck called me again, rather agitated, telling me about another ex-neighbor couple (Brian & Sharon) who were also friends with Becky. Sharon had fought cancer and was apparently in remission, but her husband had started deteriorating weeks before and was now in the hospital unresponsive, and it sounded like he wasn't going to make it - would I please pray for them?

As I prayed later, the Holy Spirit took me in a peculiar direction: to paraphrase, here's what I prayed: "Lord, it's almost like this couple has a curse of infirmity that has them bound! Would You lift any curse of sickness or infirmity and replace it with Your blessing of health? And Lord, it sounds like they're under a death sentence; would You commute that sentence and speak life into their bodies? And Lord, would You give us tangible evidence that You're hearing our prayers?"

Later, I felt *compelled* to share what I had prayed with Becky, and ask her if she would pass it on to Sharon. I struggled with sharing it, because if I didn't really hear from God, I would look pretty foolish if things didn't pan out, but in faith, I did share it with Becky, who in turn shared it with Sharon. Sharon said it made her emotional but it encouraged her. I found out later that in the midst of this, Sharon had to go have additional scans done as they feared her cancer had returned!

To everyone's amazement, a few days later Brian opened his eyes, and I think it was within a week or so, their daughter posted a video on Facebook showing Brian sitting up and talking!! That was pretty tangible evidence to me! In the meantime, Sharon had scans done, and it turns out what they saw was simply inflammation!! Last week Becky sent me a picture of Brian using a walker going up his driveway to his home - from his deathbed to his bed at home - Praise God!!

I do not share this to brag about my ability to pray! God simply chose me that day to proclaim what He was about to do - I was simply His herald. Let me encourage you - be open to whatever and however God wants you to pray, and PLEASE, if you feel *compelled* to share it with others - do so, and watch what God might do!! Amen!!