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Pastor's Corner

There is Always a Word From the Lord

"When you're down to nothing, God is up to something." We have all heard this saying, however, when we are deep into our circumstances, it is difficult to believe. Often, we ask, "Where is God?" God is always where God is supposed to be - right by our sides.

The following story - we don't know if it is true or not; yet everyone can feel the truth of the circumstances. The truth of the hope and the challenge of the pain. We can empathize with all the feelings of being abandoned by an omnipotent God. In the midst of everything we hold dear, do not mistake God's silence for God's inaction. God is always sending us a Word, a message, promise – but are we ready to receive it?

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Sally jumped up as soon as she saw the surgeon come out of the operating room. She said: "How is my little boy? Is he going to be all right? When can I see him?" The surgeon said, "I'm sorry. We did all we could, but your boy didn't make it." Sally said, "why do little children get cancer? Doesn't God care anymore? Where were you God when my son needed you?" The surgeon asked, "would you like some time alone with your son? One of the nurses will be in a few minutes, before he's transported to the university." Sally asked the nurse to stay with her while she said good-bye to her son. She ran her fingers lovingly

through his thick red curly hair. "Would you like a lock of his hair?" the nurse asked. Sally nodded yes. The nurse cut a lock of the boy's hair, put it in a plastic bag and handed it to Sally. The mother said, "it was Jimmy's idea to donate his body to the University for study. He said it might help somebody else. I said no at first, but Jimmy said, 'Mom, I won't be using it after I die. Maybe it will help some other little boy spend more days with his Mom." She went on, "My Jimmy had a heart of gold. Always thinking of someone else. Always wanting to help others if he could."

Sally walked out of Children's Mercy Hospital for the last time, after spending most of the last six months there. She put the bag with Jimmy's belongings on the seat of her car. The drive home was difficult. It was even harder to enter the empty house. She carried Jimmy's belongings and the plastic bag with the lock of his hair to her son's room. She started placing the model cars and other personal things back in his room exactly where he had always kept them. She laid down across his bed and while hugging his pillow, cried herself to sleep.

It was around midnight when Sally awoke. Lying beside her on the bed was a folded letter. The letter said:

"Dear Mom, I know you're going to miss me; but don't think I will ever forget you, or stop loving you, just 'cause I'm not around to say "I Love You." I will always love you, Mom, even more with each day. Someday we will see each other again. Until then, if you want to adopt a little boy so you won't be so lonely, that's okay with me. He can have my room and all my old stuff to play with. But if you decide to get a girl instead, she probably wouldn't like the same things us boys do. You'll have to buy her dolls and stuff girls like you know. Don't be sad thinking about me because I'm in this really neat place! Grandma and Grandpa met me as soon as I got here and showed me around some, but it will take a long time to see everything. The angels are so cool. I love to watch them fly. And, you know what? Jesus doesn't look like any of his pictures. Yet, when I saw Him, I knew it was Him. Jesus himself took me to see GOD! And guess what, Mom? I got to sit on God's knee and talk to Him, like I was somebody important. That's when I told Him that I wanted to write you a letter, to tell you good-bye and everything. But I already knew that wasn't allowed. Well, you know what Mom? God handed me some paper and His own personal pen to write you this letter. I think Gabriel is the name of the angel who is going to drop this letter off to you. **God said for me to give you the answer to one of the questions you asked Him, 'Where was He when I needed him?" God said He was in the same place with me, as when His son Jesus was on the cross. He was right there, as He always is with all His**

children. Oh, by the way Mom, no one else can see what I've written except you. To everyone else this is just a blank piece of paper. Isn't that cool? I have to give God His pen back now. He needs it to write some more names in the Book of Life. Tonight, I get to sit at the table with Jesus for supper. I'm sure the food will be great.

Oh, I almost forgot to tell you. I don't hurt anymore. The cancer is all gone. I'm glad because I couldn't stand that pain anymore and God couldn't stand to see me hurt so much either. That's when He sent The Angel of Mercy to come get me. The Angel said I was a Special Delivery! How about that?

Signed with Love from God, Jesus & Me."

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Church, **there is ALWAYS a Word from the Lord.** God never fails. It is just we do not understand what the divine plan is. We can't even identify with it when it causes us such upheaval in our lives. Yet God never failed us. God has always delivered what is best for God's children. We can remember growing up and our parents would tell us things we could not understand at the time. However, when we grew older, when we matured and began carrying some of the weight they carried, then we understand more. We see more. We come to realize our part is the effort, but the outcome belongs to God.

God Bless and remain safe,

Pastor Gool