

Life Goes On
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Beef & Boards

Life does go on...no matter what life throws at us...life goes on.

We have all been hit with some type of shock; whether it is cancer or something else. For me, I was diagnosed with CLL. When I left the doctor I sat in my car for some time. And when I was able to begin to think, I thought of my daughter Stevie and then my mom. That was when I broke. I couldn't imagine the pain a parent feels when burying their child. And I guess you could say I begged God to allow me to out live my mom. Then I thought I wouldn't tell Stevie or mom and if I was lucky they may not need to know for several years.

But as we all know, avoidance does not make things go away. And it is at those times when we become consciously aware that life goes on. I remembered that my mom told me dad's favorite Bible passage was I Corinthians 10:13; and it says this, "No test or temptation that comes your way is beyond the course of what others have had to face. All you need to remember is that God will never let you down; God will never let you be pushed past your limit; God will always be there to help you come through it."

This passage is not limited to cancer patients or their friends and loved ones. Though I have relied on the passage more sense I have been diagnosed. I believe it is meant for all things in life. No matter what the shock is that hits us...or even the small issues of life. God is there and will help us through it.

And having friends and loved ones to talk to and be there can make difficult times a lot easier.

[Message 2 \(2:30\)](#)

I read something once that said, "If you have one good friend in life you're lucky." Hearing all of the physical things that have hit me you may think I have had but bad luck. I look at it differently. I have my family I was born to, Stevie, friends, a family at work and The Garden. If one good friend is lucky...I am among of the luckiest people in the world.

We all need support in different ways and we all support our friends and loved ones in different ways. If you will indulge me, I would like to talk about the support that works for me. My mom's support is great, I asked her not to dwell on my Leukemia with me...but be there. This is probably the hardest thing

she has ever been ask to do. Yet she has done as I asked. The support I get from the tone of her voice and look in her eyes means more then any words she could say. And I would like to tell her thank you. And Stevie...she is my rock. There is no way I could adequately put into words the strength she has given me.

What I get from my family at work is wonderful and each supports me in different ways. The women, they are moms and wives. Their support is nurturing and keeping me in line. And the are the guys that give a more hands off support. I need both. My "office wives/sisters" ☺ seem to know when I need to be pushed to do more and when I need to stop and do less...when I need to eat and what I need to eat. We guys are a little different. They are understanding and caring...yet they don't treat me much different then they did before. Sympathetic and ask how I am, yet life goes on and we have work to do.

So...if life goes on, we have a choice to make. How are we going to live the remaining years

[Message 3 \(3:15\)](#)

Sometime ago before saying a prayer I told you of a friend of mine that had several brain tumors and was given a very short time to live. To this day I have never met anyone so in love with life and so happy. And two years later at the end of his life I asked him how he could be so full of life, even now. He said that everyday he woke up was a blessing and each day he made a conscience decision to really live and be happy.

If you think about, we all make similar choices throughout the day. We may be in an argument with our spouse or life partner and within each argument there comes a time that you have to decide if you should say one thing or another. If you say one, the fight goes on...if you say the other, the situation can begin to defuse. Parents, how many times have we repeated to ourselves, "Pick your battles."

And sometimes life thrusts us into a battle that can seem over whelming. Yet life will eventually beat us all physically. But mentally and emotionally...We have a choice on that one. I believe that's how cancer patients beat cancer. And...it is how all of us can choose to live.

And another choice I have made is to face much of the intimate struggling...alone. The support I get from my family, friends, here at The Garden and God allows me to do that. The support I get from ya'll here reminds me that, "...God will always be there to help you come through it."

[Close \(1:00\)](#)

I wish you enough sun to keep your attitude bright
no matter how gray the day may appear.
I wish you enough rain to appreciate the sun even
more.
I wish you enough happiness to keep your spirit
alive and ever lasting.
I wish you enough pain so that even the smallest of
joys in life may appear bigger.
I wish you enough gain to satisfy your wanting.
I wish you enough loss to appreciate all that you
possess.
I wish you enough hellos to get you through the final
good-bye.

Don't wait until something catastrophic hits our life. I
hope we will truly grasp that life does go on and we
have a choice on how you will live. Make a
commitment to wake up every morning and decide
to really live...and mean it this time.