

Q: Describe some of the challenges you have been involved with.

A: I was thirty five years old when I was diagnosed with the debilitating and sudden onset of an auto-immune disease, rheumatoid arthritis. It hit me in the prime of my life. It was between four and five months before a diagnosis was made. My primary care doctor treated me with mega doses of Prednisone and pain relievers that didn't work well. Like any disease or other difficulty, there was also depression. Also, my dear hubby fights Parkinson's right along with me.

Q: What do you do when you feel unsure and how does God help and encourage you in these challenges?

A: Of course I sought out Jesus Christ through prayer and tears, just wanting to know what was going on and to ask how to make it go away. It was over one of those weekends when it completely locked up every joint in my body between my neck and ankles; I couldn't move. I was angry and frustrated. I grew up knowing Christ as our Healer, but I wasn't healing and all I could do was wait. Wait for a diagnosis, a remedy, or for God to make it go away. Somewhere on that trail I read 2 Corinthians 12:9, "But He said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness.'" With the Trinity in our corners we get through every day!

Q: How has God called you to reach out to others even in the midst of the challenges?

A: God has provided opportunities to share my challenges not only with family and friends, but also for the three years I spoke at medical lectures about RA and its challenges, giving Jesus credit for getting us through every day.

Q: What is your favorite verse or quote?

A: And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto Myself, that where I am, there you may be also. John 14:3

