

January 2, 2022

## God's Grace

[Titus 3:4-7](#)

*But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit*

When I was asked to do an Advent devotional, I was hesitant to say yes because I wasn't sure I was worthy of doing one. Then I thought that if I were asked to do one, I must be somewhat of a witness for my Lord and Savior and the grace he has shown me through the years.

Since thinking about all this, the scripture that came to mind was Philippians 4:13, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." This goes hand in hand with Titus 3:4-7, because the Holy Spirit has given me grace and strength to get through my struggles.

I've been blessed through the years by loving parents, siblings, a wonderful husband, great in-laws, three loving sons, seven grandchildren and now a great-grandson.

Life hasn't always been a bed of roses, though. I can recall a major event in my life where God was definitely my strength. On November 24, 1987, my husband was shot deer hunting. He lost all the lower part of his jaw and the end of his tongue. We went through 20+ surgeries, a trach, feeding tube and lots of mental and physical pain. I was required to do a lot of nursing. I told my husband that I never wanted to be a nurse, and I still don't.

Christ had definitely been our strength and help to get through these days, months and years.

The other major event was when I was diagnosed with breast cancer five years ago. Fortunately, it was caught very early. I had four chemo treatments and two weeks of radiation each day. I continue to be cancer free at this time. During my treatments, I would sit on my front porch, and God provided me with beautiful hummingbirds to entertain me. Never before did I notice or realize how amazing a creature God had created in the hummingbird.

These and other events in my life have made me stop and smell the roses. Never before did I appreciate all the beauty of this world. I took so much for granted. I thank God daily for his grace and the hope of eternal life with him when my days on earth are done.

**Prayer:** *Heavenly Father, thank you for being our strength in sickness and in health. Help us always to be thankful of this beautiful world and life you have blessed us with. Let us never forget your grace is sufficient. Amen.*

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