



JUNE 24, 2017

FIELDER'S FRONTLINES

FATHER'S DAY IN HOSPITAL

I wanted to send this brief report to thank everyone for their prayers during my recent health crisis.

On the Friday after our annual Team Meeting, I went in for a routine (my first ever) colonoscopy and a minor surgical procedure. While doing the colonoscopy the doctor found two polyps and removed them, leaving behind a clamp which is supposed to dissolve over time. A follow-up visit on the next Tuesday showed that I was healing well and I was given permission to travel.

On Saturday we headed over to Champaign, Illinois where I was scheduled to preach on Sunday morning. Following that service we were going to travel toward Louisiana for the MIT (Missionary-In-Training) program which started on Monday evening. Late Saturday night, I started hemorrhaging. My wife took me to the hospital early Sunday morning. When we arrived, I was in a crisis situation having lost between 3 and 4 pints of blood, with my blood pressure at 70/50 and hemoglobin counts very low.

I was immediately admitted and a series of tests revealed that one of the clamps had failed and I was bleeding internally. By noon, they had completed the emergency surgery and repaired the problem. They kept me in advanced care overnight for observation.

I was discharged on Monday morning and made it back to Avon. I am resting up and trying to regain my strength. Blood work from Thursday shows my blood counts are climbing back up toward normal.



I AM SO THANKFUL FOR:

- the fact that this happened in a hotel room one mile from a good hospital rather than in Louisiana at least one hour from any major hospital.
- that my Nigerian doctor at the hospital has 25 years experience with this kind of problem and that he was working on a Sunday
- that this doctor came made an unscheduled visit back to my room Sunday evening and we got to share with him how the Lord has worked in our lives and the ministry He has given us
- that my descending blood counts stopped one-tenth of a point short of what would have required a transfusion
- for the kind staff of the hospital and their excellent care
- for my main caregiver (my wonderful wife) who rushed me to the hospital for the second time in my life and stayed through the night with me
- for the encouragement from my good friend, Bill Patterson who reminded me that we serve a sovereign God who directs the affairs of our lives and that we are in His loving hands

Please pray for strength as we leave for New York City tomorrow to fulfill our obligations for the second week of the MIT program.

Thank you for your prayers and support.
God bless you.

Ken Fielder

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