

July 17, 2020

*“Give me all through to-day sympathy and love for all, that I may always try to weep with those who weep and to rejoice with those who rejoice: through Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.”* In the morning

As I read this morning’s prayer and listened to Bishop Curry’s Podcast on “Bless”, I was immediately taken to a time when my father was critically ill. At the time, I was preparing for a retreat weekend where I would be the spiritual director. It was a Saturday morning and the team and I gathered for one final meeting of preparation. After the meeting, we stood for prayers (holding hands) and then sang a song – “The Servant Song.” I have always loved The Servant Song but that day it spoke to me as if it were a special prayer. We sang part of a verse: *“I will weep when you are weeping. When you laugh, I’ll laugh with you. I will share your joy and sorrow till we’ve seen this journey through.”* Tears filled my eyes. One of my close friends who happened to be standing next to me tightened her grip. That seemingly small jester spoke volumes of what it means to be a Christian. I felt blessed and uplifted by this team.

As Christians, we share our stories with one another.

Often our stories are shared through prayer. We offer prayers for the people in our lives. It is an honor to pray for the needs of the people we love. It strengthens our spiritual life when we pray for and bless others.

As Christians, we allow other people to pray for us. Allowing someone to pray for us makes us vulnerable and can be a humbling experience. However, if you feel “safe” enough to allow others to pray for you, incredible things will happen. You might find that the problem overwhelming you has been experienced by someone else and they can be your guide and counselor as you move forward. You will be reminded that you are not alone, in addition to God those who are praying for you will be with you on this journey. Your spiritual health will be strengthened by the prayers and blessings of others.

In a few instances, we are able to sit down with one another and spend the time necessary to share our spiritual journey with others.

I urge you to continue to share your story whether it is with prayer, an intimate conversation revealing your spiritual journey with a friend or a simple clasp of hands.

Whenever we share our stories, we share our joys and sorrows on this incredible journey with God and one another. It is a blessing to share your life and to listen to the lives of others. It transforms us.

[I’ve included the “The Servant Song” sung by Fran McKendree with today’s blog.](#)