

Patient's Powerful Prayer

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By Dr. Derek Conte

I have written more than once about the effect our attitudes, our minds, our moods and our beliefs have on our physical health. We can be brought down by them or be healed by them. That is what is meant by the word "psychoneuroimmunology". It is a choice we make, whether unconsciously or consciously, to be well or to be ill --- to give in to it or to recover and, if it is your inclination, ask God for help.

A patient has agreed to share his extraordinary story with all of you. I wanted to preserve his words and asked him to edit it down from 10,000 to only 500 but the power of the story remains intact. Please contact me if you would like to read the full version.

"Dear Family and Friends,

I was diagnosed with a rare cancer, Waldenstrom's Macroglobulinemia. I endured six chemo cycles. I received great care from Piedmont oncologists in Atlanta and MD Anderson in Houston as well as from my chiropractor. I prayed for my health every day.

After chemo ended, I developed an issue with heat, exacerbated by exertion. Dr. Jonas, in Atlanta, told me that the past year had taken a toll on my body and that I should understand that I had aged by five to ten years. I did not take ownership of that statement as truth.

I claimed that I was as good as I had ever been. At that moment I added a very specific prayer to my list. I asked God to allow me to be 100% cancer free, that there was no cancer in my blood, in my bone marrow or in my body and that when the doctors looked for it, they would not find it. Every day, all day, silently, out loud, I relentlessly offered up my prayer.

At my sixth-month checkup in Houston, the scheduler who made my appointment greeted us with hugs and said that she had to meet the guy that said the doctors weren't going to find cancer in his system --- that they would only find the spark of God. Yes, I talked to every cell in my body reminding them that each one contained a piece of God and there was no way that He was going to be anywhere near a cancer.

After two days of tests, my oncologist saw me and allowed that there was not much to report yet. We asked questions, specifically what she thought about WM going into remission. Her response: "Very rarely does WM go into remission. Don't get your hopes up and certainly don't expect a *miracle*, especially so soon after completing chemotherapy." I told her that I was a Light Warrior, that there were thousands of prayers being lifted up daily on my behalf and that I would be a member of the Ten Percent Club. She left with, "Good luck. We will call you with your results."

We left the exam room disappointed but not disheartened. Deep down we knew the truth, and we held firm to our belief.

Two weeks later, I received the call. "The entire team has reviewed your bone marrow biopsy and your blood work, and we cannot find any sign of cancer." That was almost verbatim my prayer! I asked the doctor if this meant that this cancer is in remission. She replied, "Yes, your cancer is in remission." What great news!

Prayer is a powerful thing. Great medical care is a must, but do not accept as fact what doctors might tell you. Decide for yourself what you want and lay claim to the fact that, through faith and prayer, you have it. Enlist your team of prayer warriors and pray earnestly.

Talk to God. He cares, and He hears. Prayers work!

Blessings,

"Skip"

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