

Thursday, December 24, 2015

*For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part but then I shall know as I am known.*

***1 Corinthians 13:12***

In November 1997, my mom lost a short, but valiant battle with leukemia. It was just 11 weeks from diagnosis to the day I said good-bye to her. But my mom was a woman of unshakable faith and she had faced all of life's challenges with great courage. This one was no different. She assured me that she was ready to meet Jesus and crawl into His loving arms. As the holiday season approached, I wondered how I would get through Christmas when I was so heartbroken. But before my mom died she told me that to honor her, I should live my "best life." So I tried to put a brave face on my grief and prepare to celebrate the holidays. It was a few days before Christmas and I had just finished buying the last present on my list. With a sense of relief and accomplishment, I exited the mall.

The sun was just beginning to set. But the typical gray of a cold Pennsylvania sky had been replaced with an array of delicate pink clouds. It took my breath away. "Hi, Mom!" was my first response. For the first time in over a month, a sense of peace washed through me. For me, in that moment, the sky reflected the glory of God, and my mom's new home in heaven.

Did I see my mom or speak to her in that cold, December sky? Certainly not! What I saw was a glimpse of glory. In that moment, God reminded me that He would be with me through my grief. He reminded me that I was not alone. He reminded me that I was His child. Each day, God gives us glimpses of His Glory. We just need to be aware and acknowledge them.

Every once in a while the sky will be just that certain shade of pink. And when it is, it reminds me of my mother. It reminds me of God's love for me. And it reminds me that one day, when I meet Him face to face, I will have more than a glimpse of glory.

*Dear Lord, In this Christmas season, we thank You for simple reminders of Your majesty and glory. Help us to always know that You are with us, no matter what challenges we are facing. In Your name, Amen.*

**Kath Doerr**