

Thursday, December 4, 2014

Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time, casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you. 1 Peter 5:6-7

Sometimes the biggest surprises in life—those things not expected, anticipated or prepared for—are among the greatest joys God gives us.

My youngest was born three months premature, weighing all of one pound, fourteen ounces. He was not supposed to happen. I had already given birth to three healthy children in the previous twelve years of our marriage and my husband, Barry, and I were satisfied and grateful to God for the bountiful blessings of our family...but God had more in store.

When Carey came so early, we were told not to name him or send out birth announcements. Even as we prayed over him that first day, I thought about how every pregnant woman would love to see what the baby she is carrying really looks like—and here I held my fourth child in the palm of my hand, tiny arms and legs spilling over, a precious gift from God.

One of the greatest dangers with premature babies is that their vital organs have not had the necessary time to develop and operate on their own. Carey's due date was July 21; he was born April 21. A human baby needs approximately twenty-four months of gestation to survive. Carey did not have that. Only God Almighty knows the amount of prayers that were offered up for Carey by our family, friends and other believers. I choose to believe those prayers were the difference.

We had wonderful doctors when Carey was born, the same ones caring for my other three children. On the first day of Carey's life, Dr. Edwards spent every second of that day with him, "manually" working Carey's lungs with his own hands until he hoped Carey could do it on his own. Think of the times known to us and unknown to us when Jesus puts His hands on us to see us through something difficult or, worse, perceived as highly impossible.

Carey remained in the pre-natal nursery at Good Samaritan Hospital for two months before coming home a healthy baby—an amazing one month before his expected birth date! He would grow up healthy and normal like the rest of our kids.

Today, Carey and his wife are Christians raising four children in South Carolina. A child unplanned and unforeseen, a wonderful marriage never contemplated, and four more precious grandchildren that Barry and I never expected, but are enjoying immensely are joys God has given us. Like the pebble dropped in the pond, the ripples reach out and out and out...

Sometimes the biggest surprises in life are God's greatest joys for us. Be a believer, and let us all see the great things which God hath done—like a baby in a manger called "Jesus." And remember, "Cast all your cares on Him for He careth for you." (1 Peter 5:7)

Thank You, Lord, that You do care for us and always have us in Your loving hands. Amen.

Winnie Romoser