

Testimony of Marilyn Middleton

The Healing Power of Love

(February 7, 2024)

I was not feeling quite right physically for about three days, starting Friday, February 2nd. I was not in pain, but had little energy, and even the smallest exertion left me breathless and needing to sit down. My brain was kind of fuzzy. (I don't have the words to describe the feeling.) None of this was good as I live alone and need to be able to take care of myself.

I was able to function to an extent, until Sunday, when I totally had a meltdown. I attended church, which was fine, but when I went downstairs to potluck, I really ran out of steam. The line for food was very long. I knew I couldn't stand that long, so I sat down at a table close to the kitchen. Just walking that distance wore me out, and I had to sit down. After sitting awhile, I was breathing better. Karen and Lee invited me to join them, which I did. All went well until I took my dishes to dispose of them. Again, I was out of breath, very unsteady and unable to do anything but sit.

That's when Lauren and Jonnie came to my rescue. Jonnie took my pulse which was very rapid and erratic. I asked for administration and felt somewhat better after Daniel and Ralph anointed and prayed for me. Many people showed concern and offered to drive me home, etc. After some discussion, it was decided that Lauren would drive me home to leave my car and Bethany would follow to take us all to Centerpoint Emergency Room.

At Centerpoint, they began helping me right away. They took blood, gave me an EKG and a chest X-ray. As usual, they were very busy, so there were long periods between these things and when the doctor came to report their findings. During this time, I began to feel better and better. After some time, they put me in the ER in a bed in the aisle, which is where I was when the doctor came.

Basically, she reported that my tests showed nothing conclusive. She recommended that they admit me overnight for observation, further tests, and a consult with a Cardiologist. I agreed, although with some reservations. Time passed and no room had been found. I decided not to

stay as I was feeling much better. Lauren had left by this time, but Bethany was still with me. Unfortunately, the ER doctor had already started the admission process, so I had to sign myself out against medical advice. No hospital staff tried to get me to change my mind. My pulse and heart rate were normal, and my oxygen level was 100%!

I don't know whether this was wise, but I felt God had restored me to be able to function as I was before this incident. I have been doing well, and I do not regret what I did. I will accept whatever consequences there may be.

Why did this happen? What are the lessons? I know some – maybe more as time goes on. One thing I was shown was much love, concern and caring from my Outreach family. Many have prayed for me, offered help, called me, came to see me and have been so kind and loving. All of this is very therapeutic and lovely. My health was restored through God's love and the love of others. I can't say what effect all of this may have had on others, but perhaps it was beneficial to them who saw a sister in need and were able to provide help.

Several days ago, the thought came to me (as they often do) when I first awakened. "How can we prove the night if we only have the day?" I have pondered this, but really did not understand why I was given this or what I was to do with it. Just now, as I was writing about this experience, at the top of the paper was the question I just quoted. Perhaps I was given "the night" to better appreciate "the day." All of this confirms to me that God the Father, and Jesus the Son are truly magnificent and oh, so worthy, of praise, honor, love, and devotion.

I am grateful for this experience, but there is more! With God there is always more! Last night I was shown in a dream a pretty woman in a bright green dress. For several years now, I have seen this gorgeous shade of green in my dreams. Sometimes it is people's clothing, sometimes it is something in nature. Some of the symbolism of green: Heart center, nature, rebirth, renewal, new life, resurrection, spring, eternal life. WOW!