

John Tefertiller Health Update – 28 July 2009

Dear Friends and Family,

What's Happening

I have not sent out an update for a month now, as there have been no major changes to the course that I am on. Treatments have been proceeding as planned. I am now a little more than two thirds of the way through the radiation treatments and finished this week with chemotherapy. When the radiation ends in a couple of weeks, there will be a “quiet period” of another several weeks before surgery will be scheduled. There have been some side effects, but nothing so severe as to require intervention by the doctors. I have been able to eat more-or-less normally, while being cautious about foods and drink that might exacerbate problems. By God's grace I have fared far better than many who pass this way.

Thanksgiving

I want to thank everyone for their prayers and expressions of compassion. It has been a lesson in humility to see how many people have told me that they are praying for me. I have received encouragement literally from across the world, and from more than one who has told me that they pray for me daily, when they have never before prayed daily for anything! I suppose that this is an answer to my own prayers that God would reveal his own glory in my circumstances.

Prayer Requests

Here are some things that you can pray for:

1. That God would continue to sustain me through treatments.
2. That the financial aspect of treatment and recovery would be worked out according to God's provision.
3. That people would see God's hand at work rather than just me in my circumstances.
4. As always, that God would provide wisdom and insight for the doctors involved in treatment and recovery.

Final Thoughts

None of us knows what is in store for us tomorrow. We are exhorted again and again in the Bible to seek the Lord daily, even as we plan for the future. As our eternal Father knows the end from the beginning, so he has made every provision for us. When there are events and circumstances that seem overwhelming, it is only that we might believe and turn our faith to him. In the end, it is trusting the Lord for the ordinary that turns out to be extraordinary– and because we have trusted God, when the extraordinary comes into our lives we can treat it as ordinary. It is all the same to our Heavenly Father.

Keep me in your prayers, with thanksgiving.

With warm affections,

John T.