



GIVING YOU JESUS



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER | Winter 2019

For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. — 2 Corinthians 4:17

Have you ever specifically prayed for something, only to have the situation get worse? Have you prayed for your health to improve, only to have your condition weaken, then deteriorate further when you have a negative reaction to the medicine you were given? Have you prayed for your job to be more productive, only to lose out on a promotion, then be asked to resign? Have you prayed for your child's well-being, only to have him drop out of school, then learn that he is involved in drugs?

Things got worse for Mary and Martha when they sent word to Jesus in John 11:3, *Lord, the one you love is sick*. Implied in the message was an urgent request on behalf of their brother Lazarus: "Please come. Do something. Help him. Make our brother well." If they could have heard Jesus' response at the moment He heard their request, they might have been initially encouraged, because when He heard this, Jesus said, *"This sickness will not end in death. No, it is for God's glory so that God's Son may be glorified through it."*(11:4) The logical assumption would have been that He was promising Lazarus' illness would not become worse...that Lazarus would not die...that God would heal him. Yet not only did Lazarus not get better, things got worse. He did die.

When have you prayed and received initial encouragement through a promise from God? Has that promise led to confusion when it not only seems to be unfulfilled, but things get worse?

On August 17, I was diagnosed with breast cancer. Almost immediately, God seemed to give me a promise from James 5:17, *Pray for one another that you may be healed*. I believed God was promising to heal me in answer to your prayers, even though I didn't know if it would be before surgery, through surgery, using chemotherapy and/or radiation. So my journey of faith began, undergirded by the prayers of many people.

***"...let's
choose to...
trust God
alone.
Period."***

Rather than be healed before the surgery, I went through surgery. Rather than the cancer being contained, it was found in a lymph node. Rather than experiencing minimum side-effects to chemotherapy, I experienced a severe side effect to my second treatment. Rather than stay on schedule, my treatment was delayed for a week, and another chemotherapy infusion added.

So...when things get worse, how should you and I respond? With complaints? Self-pity? Fear? Doubt? Or trust...

- ...that God has a greater purpose than our immediate comfort.
- ...that getting what we want, when we want it, is not always for our good or His glory.
- ...that our faith is of more value than our physical health.
- ...that His strength will be sufficient for each moment of each day.
- ...that His blessings will outweigh any trial.

In this New Year—when things get worse—let's choose to lay our expectations down and trust God alone. Period.

For the glory of His Name...

Instruction: *God Is There*

I. He Helps

- * Which verses in Psalm 63 imply that the Psalmist was experiencing trouble?
- * What phrase refers to the Psalmist's sleepless nights? Why do you think he couldn't sleep?
- * What keeps you up at night?
- * When sleepless, what did the Psalmist do? What do you do?
- * What encouragement do you receive from the following verses?
Psalm 10:14; 18:35; 28:7; 30:2; 46:1, 5; 94:7; 118:13
- * If you need God's help, what do you need to do? Matthew 8:5; 15:25; Luke 4:38; John 15:7

II. He Hides

- * Where did the Psalmist say God hid him?
- * How is this same thought expressed in Ruth 2:12; Psalm 17:8; 36:7; 61:4; 91:4? Give phrases.
- * What does this thought mean to you? Psalm 25:1; 32:10; 56:3; 62:8

III. He Holds

- * How was the Psalmist held?
- * What is the significance of the right hand? Exodus 15:6, 12; Psalm 16:11; 17:7; 18:35; Isaiah 62:8
- * In light of the significance of God's right hand, write out Isaiah 41:10 in your own words.
- * Is there any danger that God's grip will loosen, or that He will let go of you? John 10:29
- * When things get worse, what encouragement do you receive from Isaiah 41:13? 46:4? Deuteronomy 1:31?

When things get worse, place your faith in the God who is there to help, hide, and hold you.

Intercession

PRAISE

- * For the completion of Anne's new book before her 2nd round of chemo.
- * For the strong undercurrent of prayer from God's people around the world that is triumphantly carrying Anne through her cancer journey.
- * For over 20,000 people who completed the study of *The Daniel Key*.
- * For all those who invested financially in our ministry in 2018; and for their gifts that have greatly blessed, supported and encouraged us.

PRAYER

- * For Anne's health and strength to complete her chemo treatments by late February, then complete radiation by late April.
- * For the final editing of Anne's new book, so that it will be gripping and life-changing to the reader.
- * For God's wisdom to determine what new publishing opportunities Anne should pursue.
- * For God's creative direction as the AnGeL Ministries' staff looks for ways to maximize the impact of Anne's messages.

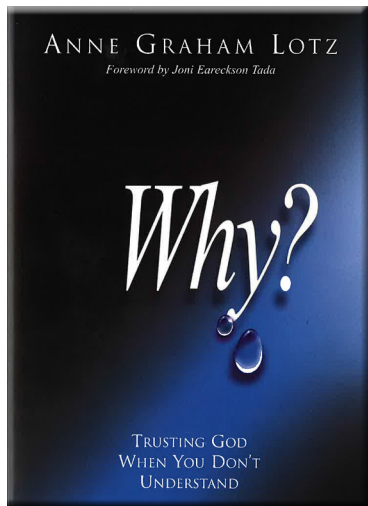


LATEST
from ANNE

Stay connected with Anne as she continues her faith journey in the midst of cancer. Visit www.annegrahamlotz.org/latest-from-anne/ to follow along and join her in prayer.

*So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen.
For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.*

— 2 Corinthians 4:18



Why? Trusting God When You Don't Understand

In this volume, Anne shares her heart and God's teachings on the universal problem of suffering, using the familiar story of Lazarus. This small book presents a simple, powerful message that is sure to bring comfort and new meaning to all who are suffering themselves or know others who need a special touch from God. It will help you understand and deal with suffering by leading you to the One Who knows your needs, shares your grief, sheds your tears and promises glory to come! Based on John 11. Foreword by Joni Eareckson Tada.

267 *Why? Trusting God When You Don't Understand*

For details and a complete list of resources, visit www.annegrahamlotz.org

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