



God is Great

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My intention for this week's post was to follow last week's, God is Good, with God is Great! On Friday morning, I found out that my husband's cousin lost his life in a car accident on Thursday night. He was 18 years-old, had just graduated from high school, and was headed off to college to play football. I did not know the young man, but I knew his parents, many of his teachers, and family members and friends. I am grieving. I begin to think about the horrible things I've seen on the news just this week, and I wonder what will be next. I fear what will be next. I think about how we can take preventive steps. I think about the old folks saying, "when it's your time, it's your time." I think about people saying, "everything happens for a reason." I cannot fathom the reason for someone's tragic death. I think about how people wonder, "where was God when...was happening?" As stated in last week's post, "Regardless of our daily experiences - what we see on the news, on our social media, or how we feel we may have been wronged, God is good, all the time." Where was God? He was right where He always is, doing what He always does, loving His people.

Even in times of grief and distress, we have to realize God's goodness. God is love. "Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love." (1 John 4:8) Even when the worst things happen, we must remember that God is great. By great we mean mighty, powerful, and profound. God is the Creator of the heavens, the earth and all things thereof. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts." (Isaiah 55:9) It's normal for us to question and wonder, think and ponder, but we also must pray and read His word. God knows His people. He knows our hearts and our minds. He knows our questions and our desire for understanding, and has placed the answers in His word.

While it's easier said than done, we must put our lives into perspective as Jesus taught, "Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes." (James 4:14) Now is the time to think and prepare for what will happen when we vanish. I am not speaking of life insurance or a will, although those things

are important. We must think of how we will be remembered - what will people say about us when we are gone? We are living our memorial everyday as we interact with those we know and love. Are we leaving them we fond memories of how much we gave, shared, and loved, or will people remember the opposite? The other big thing to consider now is how we will spend eternity. There is heaven, and there is hell. It doesn't matter how much we give, share, or love if we never confess Jesus as our Lord and Savior. It is not our works that save our soul, but our heart. Paul explains in Romans 2:8-9, "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast." This is an individual decision. It is personal, and it is important.

As we begin the week, know that God is good and God is great. In times of distress, our understanding is limited. To gain peace and understanding by and by, we must pray and read the Scriptures. Even when we think peace is impossible to attain, "Ah Lord GOD! Behold, You have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and by Your outstretched arm! Nothing is too difficult for You." (Jeremiah 32:17)

AMEN!

Blessings to you! Have a wonderful week.

Kim