

UPDATE ON ALAN'S HEALTH

Dear Friends,

As background; I was diagnosed with Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia about two years ago. This is usually a slow moving form of leukemia, and in the words of my Johns Hopkins oncologist, "You will probably die with it, not from it." The first year went pretty well, no significant problems. Then last summer, I started to lose weight and was feeling tired and weak, and I was starting to get colds, bronchitis, etc., and they would hang on for weeks. Also I was getting a lot of pains in my bones. A test showed that my white cell count, the primary measure of the severity of leukemia, had increased considerably. The doctor put me on a mild chemotherapy.

Within three weeks, I had developed pneumonia, a blood infection and other problems. I was hospitalized and started to experience kidney failure and internal bleeding. I was in the hospital for 28 days. Finally, sick and tired of being in the hospital, I insisted on being sent home, even though the bleeding and other symptoms had not cleared up.

A major reason I came home was that I wanted to go to church. I hadn't been to church for 7 weeks, and this particular Sunday was a special one at our church--our new bishop would be visiting. On Saturday I was still bleeding, but I'm not sure about Sunday. Just before receiving communion in our church, we say the prayer, "Lord, I am not worthy to receive You, but only say the word and I shall be healed." When I said that prayer on that Sunday, I felt I was being healed. The bleeding stopped. I am not sure this was a miracle, but it well might have been.

Since getting out of the hospital in November, my weakness and pains have ebbed and flowed, but I have not been further bothered by colds or other infections. In June 2009, I had a blood test and got received pretty good news. My white cell count had gone down from 99,000 to 86,000, not as big a reduction as I had expected considering how good I feel, but it was down. Incidentally, 11,000 is the normal range high, and I was at 20,000 when I was first diagnosed.

However, that's only a part of the story! God, not "nature" rules what will happen.

(To read part 2 of Alan's letter, please visit us online at www.RegenerationMinistries.org)