



“Finally, I’ve Got One!” and 3 Days, 3 Hospitals, 3 Ablations

Fay Nelson

Facing death, or its likely possibility, changes things. It gives a startling clarity to events, sights, relationships, and even seems to alternately freeze and accelerate time. Time will creep by at a glacial rate or speed by so that a week passes in what seems like a day. It gives perspective. We experienced all of this the first week of August.

A seldom noticed, life long problem with a heart that would sometimes skip a few beats became a much larger problem for CliffAnn this year. It became far more noticeable as we began our last week of ministry and she reluctantly went to the doctor. A halter heart monitor was a bit of a nuisance as we began a VBS at St. John’s United Methodist Church in Avon, but nothing extraordinary.

The ministry that first night **was** extraordinary. Several children responded to the invitation to become part of God’s family. Nothing that we experience blesses us more than that! The Pastor, Susie Fitch-Slater, called us aside before we left and shared a little girl’s story. She had been one of the ones who received Jesus as her savior that evening and felt really loved.



Crash hits the ceiling with glee after the children learned their memory verse.

She is the daughter of a single mom and has always felt the loss of not having a father. She has never seen her father. And she doesn’t know who he is. But that night she had been received into God’s family. She hugged Susie as she left and with shining eyes said, “Finally, I have one [a Father]!” Our crew celebrated most of the long ride back to Kitty Hawk, rejoicing that a life long ache had been soothed, that a little girl had a Father and that He will never abandon her.

The next afternoon, CliffAnn turned her monitor in and took a stress test. After about 6 steps they stopped her, made her lie down and ordered an ambulance. It seems that the irregular heart beat had developed into a problem which could easily have killed her. I made arrangements for our crew and our friend Martha Cain to do the evening ministry and went to the hospital where a great adventure began, ending with a heart that was ablated in three places and fixed in yet another hospital in another state.

CliffAnn was surrounded by family, her own and God’s as well. Between procedures and rides in ambulances, we celebrated the daily news as Levi Burge and Bobbi Jo Jones, our summer staff, working with Martha Cain, Elisha Burge and Israel Southern, completed a week of ministry in Avon. Each night they presented God’s love, prayed for and played with a

number of children and adults each night.

Throughout the week as I prayed and sent out emails detailing each step to our friends who pray with and for us, two special sentences rang in my heart and spirit. God whispered to CliffAnn in the ambulance and as she was wheeled into an operating room, “I’ve got it under control.” And the little girl’s words played and re-played, “Finally, I’ve got one!”

He did indeed have it all under control and the little girl and all of our staff at Creative Ministries experienced His love and Fatherhood as never before. Whatever you face this week, this month, in your future, be comforted that like that little girl, you have a Father... and He has it all under control.

Prayer Requests

- ✚ For our trip to England August 28th through September 10th.
- ✚ For traveling mercies and safety!
- ✚ For patience in long lines.
- ✚ For effective ministry.
- ✚ For our health and endurance.
- ✚ For God’s provision for all of our needs.
- ✚ For peace for our families.

Thank you!

Thank you for the many prayers and expressions of love and encouragement during this time. It was such a comfort to know that friends all over the world were interceding!

CliffAnn

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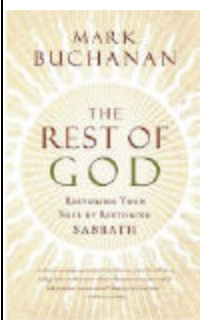
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We Recommend!



Ironically, we chose this book for this edition before the enforced rest we received. We have found this refreshing and challenging and recommend it as a must read!



Press On! by Selah has become our new favorite! This group grew up on the mission field and their jazzy arrangements and stunning vocals help make songs and hymns old and new both fresh and refreshing.



There is a never-ending need for cards to share with others our thoughts and best wishes and we recommend the complete line made by the women who have been rescued from lives on the street by a YWAM ministry in Thailand.

Project L.I.F.E. delivers just that, life in the Lord, rescue, and training for a profession so women can support themselves and their families. Visit their website, at <http://www.projlife.com/pattaya.html> to see their complete line.



We had the privilege of ministering to the children of Compassion's key volunteers last month and came away more favorably impressed than ever with an organization that rescues children from poverty, working through local churches throughout the world,. Visit them and sign up to adopt a child at <http://www.compassion.com> and you will receive many blessings.

Program Report CliffAnn Perry

God has done some wonderful things in the lives of His children this summer. We are blessed to see Him at work! At every Day Camp or VBS from the Colington to Wilmington to St Paul to Avon we have seen God deliver children from the kingdom of darkness and bring them into His kingdom to be a part of His family. We have watched as joy or peace spread across their faces as they understood in a new way His love for them. We have seen Him set children free from fear, rebellion, discouragement, anger and unforgiveness. We have rejoiced as they then begin to pray for others who need to know Jesus.

One of the most wonderful things for me this summer was to see the staff we have trained (Levi and Bobbi Jo with the help of Martha, Elisha and Israel) step in and run the Avon VBS with such anointing. Fay called them to ask them to do it without us as I was being taken to the hospital. They said, "yes." They didn't take the easy way out and use videos; they prayed, they adjusted the program and worked with the theme, recruited volunteers and ran practice sessions. Every night they had times of praying over the children and ministering to them in different ways. I'd like to share a couple of the stories from their week of ministry.

One night in Bobbi Jo's small group after prayer a little girl said, "I feel like God is giving me a hug right now!"



Voices competing for our attention.

Another night, their theme was "lead us not into temptation". They had done a skit about listening to God or the enemy's whispers. Later that evening two children were riding home when the car they were in started having problems.

The little girl was scared but the boy said "No, this is just Satan whispering in our ears, we need to pray that God will help us!" They prayed and all was well.

One night they gave an altar call and about 12 children stood up. As they prayed they could feel that God was at work in the children and all were amazed that the children "were actually quiet while we prayed."

I am so proud of this staff and you should be, too. Your prayers and support go not only to helping us reach many with Jesus' love but also to the training and developing of young people who are prepared to minister where ever God sends them. Thank you for helping to make this summer fruitful!

The Awesome Staff that could . . . and did!



Levi Burge, Elisha Burge,
Israel Southern



Bobbi Jo Jones, Martha Cain