

Dan's Devotion: Surgery Lesson #1

First of all, thank you for everyone who has been praying for me about my back surgery. I have felt well prayed over and I know that makes a huge difference. The surgery went well although it ended up taking over 6 hours. My recovery is going well so far also.

I believe that God likes to use situations like this to teach us some lessons if we allow him to and I have had extra time to think and pray for the past couple weeks and one of the questions that I have asked God is, "God what do you want to teach me through this?"

Some of the lessons are still taking place, but one lesson that I sense pretty clearly is that God is saying, "Dan, don't be so independent. You need to trust me and depend on me in every single area of your life. There is no area that is too big or too small."

God has used people to teach me this lesson. I am completely dependent on other people right now (mostly my wife who is doing an awesome job of taking care of me.) I can't go anywhere by myself. I can't even put my shoes and socks on by myself. It's humbling to have your children put on your shoes and socks for you. My dependence on others is teaching me to be more dependent on God.

I am reminded of the familiar passage in Proverbs 3:5-6 that says, "*Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.*" In everything we do we need to trust in and depend on God: at home, at work, at play, wherever we are at and whatever we are doing. From the moment we get up in the morning until the moment we go to sleep God needs to be our guide.

What about you? Do you have some areas that you have kept to yourself and haven't given over to God? Maybe it's time to do that.

Dependent on Him,

Dan Toney