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November 29, 2007

A Lesson in God's Perfect Timing

Praise

Anne's mother, Shirley, is recovering well after surgery to remove a cyst on her pituitary gland.

The surgeon's decision to do a less invasive procedure has allowed Shirley to recover more quickly.

Timing is everything. That sums up what I (Anne) have learned since our last newsletter. And, it's a lesson that came from dealing with my mom having neurosurgery several weeks ago.

In early October, my mom was diagnosed with a cyst on her pituitary gland. Her eye doctor discovered that she had lost some of her peripheral vision. Within a few days, she had an MRI, met with her primary doctor, a heart doctor, a neurosurgeon and an endocrinologist.

Things were moving along at a quick pace. Then, we hit a standstill. It took three more weeks for her surgeon to schedule the procedure.

In the midst of this, I was worried. As my only surviving parent, I count on my mom to be healthy. Besides Jeff, she is my best friend. I didn't know how this would affect her, or if she'd regain her eyesight. What were the doctors thinking? What was God thinking?

"For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways," declares the LORD. (Isaiah 55:8)

Finally, my mom's surgery was scheduled for November 12 and I was able to fly to Arkansas

to be with her. But even in the days before the surgery, things changed.

My mom's surgeon was called upon to help a child with a brain tumor. Mom's new surgeon determined he could use a less invasive procedure and rescheduled the surgery for the 13th. The less invasive procedure meant a quicker recovery time.

As I was in the hospital, surrounded by friends, I realized that God's timing was perfect. He had provided the right surgeon and the right procedure. Mom came through surgery with flying colors and was home within two days. She's doing great now, and her eyesight is improving.

I was amazed at the peace Mom had through the process. She was confident that God knew what He was doing and that there was some purpose behind the delay. She also talked about how she could see God's grace at work in every detail.

Often, things don't turn out as well as my mom's situation. We lose loved ones, our health fails, people disappoint us and our hearts ache. In all of these things, God is still in control. He is working out His perfect plan so that He gets the glory.

Photo Album

Pictures (clockwise from top left)

- Katy likes her new glasses and is doing well with them.

- All three kids have enjoyed playing outside while we've had cooler weather here in Florida. Even Lydia is getting used to the scratchy St. Augustine grass.

