



Kidding Chronicle



10230 E. State Rd.

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Nashville, MI 49073



Your Prayers Worked

You will remember that just about the time you received our last newsletter, I (Sheldon) was having prostate cancer surgery, Dec. 20th. Well, I'm here to tell you that God heard your prayers and answered in marvelous ways. Even though things did not go as planned, it has all turned out great.

The surgery took much longer than expected because of the amount of bleeding. I ended up with five units of blood. They warned me that I may need one. As a result, I ended up in ICU for 3 days. During that time there were challenges with my blood pressure and kidneys. By the fourth day I was transferred to a room on the surgical floor. I can not say that I was feeling very good at that point. The fifth day they wanted me to go home. I put them off most of the day but finally agreed late that afternoon. I think they were trying to get everyone they could out for Christmas. To be honest, I really didn't care if I was there over Christmas or not. I wasn't looking forward to the two hour ride home feeling as punk as I was. So I spent Christmas eve at home.

We had already planned to celebrate Christmas with the family after the first of the year. So Christmas day I wasn't out of bed much at all. Meanwhile, our daughter, Karon, her husband, Michael and their 4 kids were preparing to move from Gering, Nebraska to Nashville, MI. They are now living with us. Our son, Kedron flew out there so that he could take my place and drive Karon's car back to MI while Michael drove the U-Haul truck. They arrived here Dec. 28. Needless to say, I wasn't much help when they arrived. The truck had to be unloaded right away and get them moved in enough to get the kids places to sleep. Keep in mind, I had only been home 4 days and still not feeling all that great.

Praise the Lord, around week 5 I was feeling much better. I was looking forward to being back on the road doing programs. All was going well and I was busy doing everything that I needed to do when problems started to develop. I called the VA to see if I could get in 3 weeks early for my 3 month check-up. The bottom line is, I was told no and if I continued to get worse to go to the closest ER. During this time I had meetings on the road and was afraid I might end up looking for a hospital some night in a town I had never been in before. So I did everything possible to keep out of the ER. That would have been totally out of pocket costs. I hate to think what that would have cost.

Well, my 3 month check up was Thursday, April 7. I wasn't with the Dr. long before they had me scheduled for surgery again on the next day they did surgery which was Monday, April 11. They told me that things would continue to get worse if not taken care of and by this time it was so bad that they didn't want to wait any longer.

Scar tissue had built up which needed to be taken care of. I'm happy to report that at least at this time, 3 days after surgery, things are good again. However, only time will tell as now I have to heal and trust that the scar tissue doesn't cause problems again. Please join me in prayer as they said that sometimes they need to repeat the surgery.

New Van

We have been looking for a new van for over a year now. The one we have been driving is getting close to 240,000 miles on it. Well, God had the perfect van waiting for us. Of all places, it was in Kennewick, WA. Some good friends who live there found it. It is a 2002 with only 85,000 miles on it. Talk about clean! This one hardly looks like it was ever driven. Another nice thing about finding one out there is the fact that they don't rust out like they do in MI. It had all new tires put on less than a week before we got it so it is ready for the long miles of the summer, the price was right too. It was only \$4,999. If you are on the email list, Facebook or Twitter, you know that most of money has already come in for it. The van arrived in MI on the back of a flatbed truck and is now serving the Lord with us. We only need \$1,000 more and it will be totally paid for. Any help in that area would be greatly appreciated.



Wonderful Week

Some dear friends, Dan and Sandra, figured that Vicky and I needed time to recover and rest and blessed us with a cruise. Jan 29-Feb 5 was one of the greatest weeks we have ever had. While MI was experiencing the worst weather of the season, we were cruising the Caribbean. We had four stops along the way and got to see things that we had only dreamed about. What a wonderful God we serve.



Keep In Touch—We are so blessed to be living in a world where keeping in touch with each other is so easy. The days of waiting a week or more for a letter to arrive are long gone. Today we have cell phones, email, Facebook, Twitter and a host of other things that keep us in touch in real time with life.

From the time Sheldon went in for his check up till the time of his second surgery was not long. However, those on our Prayer Group email list got the word in just a matter of hours. During both surgeries and while I was in ICU Vicky sent messages by way of Facebook to keep everyone informed. Most missionaries today are using these tools to keep people up to date. This way you can pray for your missionaries knowing what the needs are almost instantly instead of finding out weeks or months after the fact. Keeping in close contact is the most effective way to be engaged in praying for your missionaries. I would encourage you to make sure you are on their lists so that you can pray informed.

Speaking of "high tech", I'm sure you have started to notice things like this showing up everywhere. They really are cool. If you have a smartphone you can use it to access some great stuff. We have started putting these on our web site and on just about everything we print. Give them a try and I think you will see why. You will need to download a free app from your appstore first. You can use a program like RedLaser if you have a Droid or iPhone. If you have a Blackberry or some other device, please let me know what app(s) work.



Contact info



e-mail Sheldon



Jest Kidding site



God's Family site

Sticking With Us



I want to say a personal thank you for sticking with us. In just a few months we will complete 38 years of declaring the truth of God's Word, the Bible. It has been a wonderful journey of faith. We have seen the hand of God do wonderful things in the lives of boys and girls. We have been blessed by being a small part of the growth of many churches. We have even seen many adults come to grips with Truth that changed their lives. We have seen God provide for our needs in ways that only He could. We are blessed.

What we have done and continue to do is only possible because of people like you who have stuck with us. You stick with us by praying for us as often as God brings us to mind. God has heard those prayers and as a result, kids come to know Christ, lives are changed, we are watched over and protected and God continues to give us the strength and health to keep on going.

You stick with us in your giving. The new van being the latest example which is nearly paid for. You continued to give while Sheldon was recovering from surgery and even gave extra to cover the cost that came up because of the surgery. Now as we are looking at a Summer with gas prices already at \$4.18 per gallon, we know that through you, God will provide every drop of gas needed to accomplish what He has called us to do.

We know that we have a friend who sticks closer than a brother (Proverbs 18:24). We also know that we have you and that you have our backs. With that, we march on to the victory that is only found in Christ. Thanks for being our friends and sticking with us. Your gifts to Jest Kidding are tax-deductable.