



Search Me and Know Me

On August 26th Marsha and I trekked our way to Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN for a CT scan and a PET scan. The reason the testing had to be done in Rochester rather than a local hospital is that Mayo has more sensitive testing equipment. The results were fantastic. The tumor continues to shrink, it has not spread and the cancer didn't even show up on the PET scan!

They tell me that anything smaller than a grain of rice won't show up on the PET. Cancer cells are much smaller than rice so there is probably more cancer there than meets the eye, but I'll take good news wherever I can get it. Fortunately we serve an omniscient God who isn't surprised by hidden cells. The Psalmist cried out to God saying:

0 LORD, you have searched me and known me!
2 You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.
3 You search out my path and my lying down
and are acquainted with all my ways.
4 Even before a word is on my tongue,
behold, O LORD, you know it altogether.
5 You hem me in, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.
6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is high; I cannot attain it.

Cannot attain it, indeed. Even after all these centuries mankind hasn't come close to even knowing our bodies the way God does, not to mention our thoughts or the words we will speak. I am thankful for the advanced technology of the Mayo Clinic, but I am even more thankful for the intimate understanding of our God.

What's Next?

This may fall under the category of, "Kick em' while they're down!" The next step is proton radiation treatments. This involves five weeks of daily radiation treatments. The therapy will be done in Rochester for the same reason as the CT scan, the technology is superior. Proton therapy radiation is not available in Wisconsin.

Proton radiation is better than standard x-ray radiation treatments because it is more targeted and the radiation dissipates after hitting its target; as such there is no "exit wound". Standard radiation would also put my heart and lungs at a greater risk of compromise. It would be much more reasonable to have the treatments done locally but if it affects my heart or lungs then we haven't saved anything.

Five weeks out of town will create a tremendous financial hardship but it will also offer an opportunity to see God show Himself strong. I can't wait to tell you all the creative ways He provided for our needs!

The Saga Continues

We would all like to have a fairytale life where everything magically works out in fantastic ways, but that's not reality. God continues to build the story of His faithfulness in my life through the traumas of cancer. It has been my continuing effort to leverage all of it for God's glory. Along those lines I have a gig arranged (gig has become part of my lexicon as my daughters are active in the music industry) to speak at a church in the Chicago area after radiation treatments are done. I will keep you posted. If you want me to speak at your church or group send me a message at preacherman@davidchristensen.life and we will make it happen.

Thanks for your Prayers

Words cannot express the gratitude I feel for the constant prayers being sent up on my behalf, not only for my health but for this budding ministry as well. Keep up the good work. Your faithfulness will be rewarded, if not in this life then throughout eternity.

Faithfully yours,

- **DAVID CHRISTENSEN**
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