



Summer Issue 2010

InterACT

The Newsletter of the Association of Christian Therapists: A fellowship of Health Care Professionals and Associates

DATEBOOK... Save the Date!

ACT International Conference

September 16-19, 2010
ACT International Conference, Albuquerque New Mexico, USA
Hilton Albuquerque
1901 University Blvd. NE
Tel: 1-505-884-2500
Fax: 1-505-880-1196
www.ACTHeals.org or contact the ACT Office at 703-556-9222

Regional Meetings San Diego-Los Angeles Regional Retreat

July 23-25, 2010.
Prince of Peace Abbey, 650 Benet Hill Rd, Oceanside, CA 92058, 760-967-4200. Questions? Contact Toni Doyle 858-452-7243 or tonidoyle@yahoo.com

ACT Pilgrimage

October 5-14, 2010
"Through the Spiritual Heart of France"
Rev. Martin Bradbury, Rev. James Petrie
Contact: Jennie Dodson
Tel: 1-905-335-6902

Fall InterACT

Sept. 30, 2010 deadline
Submit attachments (subject to editing) to: storysunday@optonline.net
Mention InterACT in the subject line.



TAKE YOUR OXYGEN FIRST COMPASSION FATIGUE

People caring for chronically ill loved ones turn cartwheels to provide the care needed. Given the constant drain on their time and energy they are clearly at risk for "compassion fatigue." Their empathy backfires, "flooding the caregiver with another person's pain, leaving them exhausted, angry, even unable to care anymore." (Tim Jarvis/Mind Wise). People are often afraid to talk about the experience, lest they appear selfish. Caretaking for a loved one can be a long, lonely, exhausting road.

According to Mike Kearney, MD (lead author of an article on the topic in the *Journal of American Medical Association*) about six to eight percent of physicians and nurses also suffer from "Compassion Fatigue." Symptoms include irritability, disturbed sleep, outbursts of anger, intrusive thoughts, and a desire to avoid anything having to do with the patient's struggle. Rx: Take Your Oxygen First!

SEEK OUT INTERCESSORS: Intercessory prayer can supply an unseen network of strength and support. PRAY: Start the day with a prayer seeking Jesus' protection and direction. Close the day in

thanksgiving for what went well. Ask for help with what went less well. Say a cleansing prayer asking Jesus to remove anything you may have taken on from the patient. Pray to be refilled with the Holy Spirit. Spend time in contemplative prayer. Breathe in Jesus. Breathe out stress. TALK: Share burdens with friends, co-workers or professionals. Unburden feelings of guilt. KEEP A JOURNAL: Write down thoughts and feelings to develop self-awareness. REFLECT: Acknowledge that you are in a very difficult situation, which can affect you, not because you are weak, but because it is truly difficult. SELF-CARE: Get sufficient sleep, nutrition, exercise and recreation.

READ: Seek out literature on caretaking and compassion fatigue. CONNECT: Find a support group. (Friends of St. John the Caregiver, a non-profit resource group www.fscj.org). Stay connected to the outside world. RESPITE CARE: Find caregiving partners or centers which can provide much-needed 'time out.' ENJOY NATURE: Take that walk. SET HEALTHY BOUNDARIES: Lace everything with love, but be compassionate without being consumed. Turn burdens into blessings. (adapted from Caring Today '09 G. Doyno)

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Dear ACT Community



These are pivotal times. We are all called to a deeper walk with Jesus, to appreciate where we have been but *to be open and yielded to how the Holy Spirit is moving us now*. This is true personally, in family and friendship, and professionally, yielding to the fresh, now movements of the Holy Spirit working through us in healthcare practice and healing ministries, as we grow in being healers with the heart of Jesus. We are being moved to make ACT visible, to communicate the Vision of ACT to colleagues and associates committed to the healing ministry of Jesus, to represent the passion of Jesus to heal his people and to invite our Christian healthcare colleagues and associates to join us in ACT, to join our community of mutual support, mentoring and equipping for Christian holistic healthcare practice and healing ministry. Our message is going out broadly, worldwide, through actheals.org, facebook and linkedin.

Recognizing that God wants to speak fresh words to us, to focus and ignite us now, the ACT Board and Councils, Regional Coordinators, Specialty Chairs and Committee Chairs are engaging a 6-month prayer process, praying in teams of 2, 2 by 2, studying the beatitudes, listening to the prophetic words spoken recently in ACT conferences, through the Word Gift Team and at Board and leadership meetings, hearing the Lord freshly as we pray together. Forrest Yanke, LCSW, PhD, and Bob Sears, PhD, SJ, are leading us in this process. Words coming forth are many and striking: "You are my instrument being fine tuned. You will play in a new way." "Discover the beauty in each other, the gifts. Then you will know when to call on each other." "Stand on the rock of faith. Go out and make a difference in my world. I will provide all that you need."

Perhaps the most compelling word coming forth is hidden in the power of support, care, creativity, courage and accountability to action made evident in our bonding 2 by 2 in prayer. New members make clear their hunger to connect, to walk closely with others in working out and living this integration we call Christian holistic healthcare practice and healing ministry, being healers with the heart of Jesus. Those of us who have been in ACT for a while are being reawakened to this primary method of Jesus, sending his disciples out 2 by 2.

Doug

Douglas Schoeninger, PhD
President ACT



EDITOR'S NOTE

Gloria Doino, MA

ACT International Conference 2010: "Healing the Roots of Addiction: Inviting Jesus Into the Pain." This gathering promises to be a compelling event. In addition, an annual conference provides time for us to 'take the time' *to declare the Lord's name to our brethren; and praise him in the midst of the congregation.*" (Psalm 22:22). I'm excited at the prospect. So let us prepare for the Holy Spirit. Consider the words of Mark Batterson, shared with us by Fr. Nigel Mumford at the Northeast Retreat.

"Quit living as if the purpose of life is to arrive safely at death. Grab life by the mane. Set God-sized goals.

Pursue God-ordained passions. Go after a dream that is destined to fail without divine intervention. Keep asking questions. Keep making mistakes. Keep seeking God. Stop pointing out problems and become part of the solution. Stop repeating the past and start creating the future. Stop playing it safe and start taking risks. Accumulate experiences. Consider the lilies. Enjoy the journey. Find every excuse you can to celebrate everything you can. Live like today is the first day and the last day of your life. Don't let what's wrong with you keep you from worshipping what's right with God. Burn sinful bridges. Blaze new trails. Criticize by creating. Worry less about what people think and more about what God thinks. Don't try to be who you're not. Be yourself. Laugh at yourself. Quit holding out. Quit holding back. Quit running away. Chase the lion." Better yet, Chase ACT.

InterACT NEXT DEADLINE: *September 30, 2010* (Fall Issue) storysunday@optonline.net (Editor's Desk)
Mention InterACT in the subject line. *All submissions subject to editing.*

HEALING EXCHANGE

BLAME AND SHAME: FURTHER BLOCKS TO HEALING



In addition to the fact that healing is a choice to do the work, to persist, and to be open to feeling the pain that may have been buried or repressed, healing also requires taking responsibility for one's own stuff. In short, it is necessary to give up the "blame game", assess the steps toward healing, and make the choice to follow-through.

Essentially, blame is assigning fault to another for a current problem, and, in itself, the blame may be accurate. For example, my mother's abandonment in my childhood may indeed be the root of my rejection wound. My father's violence accounts for my fear of males and authority figures. The second-hand smoke I inhaled for years in the office has caused my lung cancer. The bottom-line, however, is that it is my life that has been impacted, and continuing to blame while refusing to do what I can to further my healing will negatively impact only my life and not the life of the person(s) responsible. Blame serves no useful purpose. What happened, happened, and cannot be changed. Healing requires letting go of the blame, and moving on. Consider the older brother of the lost son who missed the party because he blamed the father (Luke 15: 11-32), or Martha who lost time with Jesus and blamed her sister Mary for the many things she had to do (Luke 10: 38-42). We do not know how the first story ended, but we can witness a change in Martha, (John 11: 20-27), and the healing that comes through letting go of blame.

Shame is also a block to healing. As opposed to guilt or embarrassment, which is behaviorally related, shame is about my person. Shame suggests that there is something inherently wrong with me, that I am flawed in a way that I will never be able to live life as successfully or as happily as others. Like blame, shame is generally rooted in childhood wounds and can be identified in negative self-statements that, for the child, accounted for the wounding parental behavior. For example, 'I am unlovable' or 'I lack what makes others loveable' would explain my mother's abandonment, just as 'I am bad' or 'I am flawed in a way that I will never be good enough' accounts for my father's violence toward me. Recognizing the lie and refusing to be controlled by it leads to healing. It requires both willingness and courage to do something different, to believe something new. Consider the woman healed of the hemorrhage (Luke 8: 43-48). For twelve years she lived in the shame of being unclean, until she was able to challenge

that lie in the presence of the Truth. The leper remained untouchable until he claimed his worth in the presence of the Worthy One (Matthew 8: 2). Bartimaeus lived in the shame of darkness until he threw it off in the presence of the Light (Mark 10: 46-52).

Blame and shame bind one to the past, and in so doing, block healing. *Jesus, give me the courage to let go of the past, to forgive those whom I have blamed, and to forgive myself for the lies I have believed. Help me to see myself as you see me, beloved of the Lord, and to live in the truth of who I am in You.* (Denise Dolff, MA)

SCRIPTURE

MORE THAN MIRACLES

Simon's Mother-in-Law
Mark 1:29-39



Simon's mother-in-law was far from well. Sick and feverish, the last thing she needed was company. But there was Simon flanked by friends. I can only imagine her thoughts. Hospitality was the hallmark of her people and here she was bedridden. Jesus, James, John, Andrew, who would see to their needs? Adding to her chagrin they told Jesus at once about her illness. In that small Mediterranean dwelling place there was no place for her to hide. "Oh, Simon. What were you thinking?"

Fortunately, there was no time to feel sorry for herself. Jesus gently turned the tables and became the caretaker. There He was at her bedside, extending His hand, encouraging her to get up. (The news about Jesus had spread quickly in the province of Galilee, especially there in Capernum, Jesus' home base). She knew Simon trusted Him, so despite her aches, she forced herself to get up. Suddenly, she was aware "that the fever had left her." (Mark 1: 31) Marvel of marvels, it was true what they said about Jesus. He could heal! Imagine the commotion she must have made. Imagine the excitement with which she, now, waited on them. 'Mama,' back where she loved to be in the limelight. And Simon? You mean Simon, her favorite son-in-law? From that day forward he could do no wrong.

The news must have spread like wildfire because after sunset (the wait would indicate it took place on the Sabbath) the town came out in full force. A sea of people crowded around Simon's place. They brought loved ones, sick ones, curious ones as they jostled for position. Jesus heard the cry of their hearts and healed a multitude of diseases. "The

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THE GIFTS AND FRUITS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN CLINICAL PRACTICE

One of the wonderful gifts of ACT is its interdisciplinary composition and our shared passion across disciplines for the healing work of the Holy Spirit in clinical practice and healing ministries. We share a passion for caring for God's people through healthcare. This column will feature and honor the unique perspectives and dedications that different disciplines bring to our understanding of God's call and healing work and will document experiences of the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit in clinical practice.

Recently Sheila Hogan shared with me her passion for ministry to people (body, mind and spirit) through care for their bodies, and for honoring the many who are called and gifted to care through the many facets of medical practice. Following is her word to me.

Doug Schoeninger, PhD

THE BODY!

Sheila Waldeck Hogan, RN



The body is an excellent classroom for the synthesis of all we know from scripture, prayer, spiritual gifts, scholarly disciplines and the school of life experience and common sense. Many mysteries and salvation history have been carried out through the bodies of Jesus and Mary; the annunciation, incarnation, transfiguration, Eucharist, passion, death and resurrection of Jesus. Jesus appeared bodily to the apostles behind locked doors after His resurrection. Thomas placed his finger in the wound in Jesus' hand. When all is said and done, we will have resurrected bodies. Reaching our fullness is not limited to acquiring knowledge but includes uniting with the fullness of God in this earthly kingdom.

The vast majority of health care workers minister to the body. They hear a different drummer, the call of the Holy Spirit alluring them to study medicine and science. They bring faith, gifts and talents, compassion, prayer, passion and fire to their fields. They have the ability to see beyond the present pain to offer encouragement and hope. In the medical field, one deals with 'blood and guts', suffering, dying and death. One feels the adrenal rush to resuscitate a life, to intervene in crisis, and endure the pain of failure. One experiences heart wrenching and devastating loss to families. Yet along the way one also experiences the many victories of saving lives. Many have a second chance at life because of skill, knowledge, prayer and care of the medical community. Supportive staff and many unseen persons contribute to patient care: scientists and researchers (physiologist, molecular biologist and chemist, etc.); who have the gift of patience, a single minded focus on finding an answer; engineers, workers in robotics, who bend the metal, fix the screws, work the tension, working tirelessly to modify artificial limbs especially for our wounded soldiers; physical therapists who say, "Yes, you can do it," pushing us to move. You can hear the footsteps of many as they come to minister to your body.

Wisdom and the Holy Spirit call us to see and honor these many gifted healers and hear their footsteps as they respond to the pain and suffering of God's people, embracing the whole of us body, mind and spirit. All are needed. None can be spared.

In Psalm 139, verse 13 scripture says, "You formed my inward parts. You wove me in my mother's womb (New American Standard)." In surgery one can see this innermost knitting not in a text book or a specimen jar but right before you. Within the body one can see design, symmetry, pattern, order, position of organs, blood vessels, muscle, bone. One sees color and feels texture. One is aware of the connections and the interdependence of the systems which govern the body. The surgical team is also aware of the delicate balance of the small world within ions and minerals, oxygen, blood cells, hormones, the chemical and biological needs for the human organism to survive. Brain surgery takes the number one spot for drama. You can look at the brain exposed, see the gray matter, you are aware of the vast network of neurons and electrical impulses, coming and going. One marvels at how wonderfully we are made. The ever present God is there as in all places.

We are created whole body, mind and spirit. We are like a small trinity each part equal with its design and own purpose. In Genesis chapter 1, verse 26 (New American Standard), "Then God said, 'Let us make man in our image, according to our likeness.'" In verse 27 it says, "God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created them, male and female he created them." Body, mind and spirit, He created them. After all the days of creation, the Creator said, "It is good".

ACT 2010 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

SEPTEMBER 16 - 19, 2010

Hilton Albuquerque
Albuquerque, New Mexico

HEALING THE ROOTS OF ADDICTION: INVITING JESUS INTO THE PAIN

THURSDAY, September 16

- 3:00 pm Registration
- 5:00 pm Traveler's Eucharist
- Fr. Lou Loussier**
- 6:00pm Dinner
- 7:00 pm Praise and Worship - Word Gifts
Welcome
- 7:30 pm Ecumenical Healing Service
- 9:00 pm Social Greetings- Take advantage of
this informal event to meet or
reconnect with your peers!

- 7:15 pm Praise and Worship
- 7:30pm Healing Mass

SATURDAY, September 18

- 7:00 am Contemplative Hour (Serenity
Prayer, Sr. Maria Theresa Hronec)/Silent
Eucharistic Adoration
- 8:00 am Breakfast
- 9:00 am Praise and Worship - Word Gifts
- 9:15 am *Breaking Free from Enmeshment:
The Many Faces of Co-Dependency*
Jackie Sitte, RN, CARN, LADC I

FRIDAY, September 17

- 7:00 am Contemplative Hour (Group
Meditation for Healing, Rev. Gail
Paul)/Silent Eucharistic Adoration
- 8:00 am Breakfast
- 9:00 am Praise and Worship - Word Gifts
- 9:20 am Introduction to ACT
- Douglas Schoeninger**
ACT President
- 9:45 am *Co-Occurring Mental and Substance
Use Disorders: Building Bridges in
Health Care Assessment and
Treatment*
David Mee-Lee, MD
- 10:45 am Break
- 11:00 am *12 Stupid Things that Mess up
Recovery: Avoiding Relapse
through Self-Awareness and Right
Action*
Allen Berger, PhD

- 10:15 am Break
- 10:30am *The Spirituality of Imperfection*
Richard Rohr, OFM
- 11:30am Break
- 11:45am Lunch
- The Board of Directors invites all
first time attendees to meet with
them during this time!
must have meal plan to attend
- 12:45pm Praise and Worship
- 1:00pm *Unpacking the Spirituality of
Imperfection*
Richard Rohr, OFM
- 2:00pm Break
- 2:15pm Workshops (Session II)
- 3:30pm Break
- 3:45pm Specialty Group Meetings
- 5:45pm Catholic Mass (Sunday Liturgy)
- 7:15pm Dinner and Party

- 12:00 noon Break
- 12:15pm Lunch
- 1:15 pm Praise and Worship - Word Gifts
- 1:30pm *Panel Discussion/Q&A*
**David Mee-Lee, MD &
Allen Berger, PhD**
- 2:30 pm Break
- 2:45 pm Workshops: Session I
- 4:00 pm Break
- 4:15 pm Healing Manual Presentation
- 6:00 pm Break
- 6:15 pm Dinner

SUNDAY, September 19

- 7:00 am Contemplative Hour/Silent
Eucharistic Adoration
- 8:00 am Breakfast
- 9:00 am Christian Holy Communion Service
TBD
- 10:30 am Business Meeting
- Induction of New ACT Members
- 12:30pm Going Forth
- Commissioning Luncheon
- 2:30 pm Go in Peace

Visit the ACT website at www.actheals.org
for updates on the conference program, workshops,
conference schedule and travel information!

INSIDE ACT

CONGRATULATIONS to the members on the new Board: **Robert Sears, PhD, SJ** elected President –Elect. **George Guschwan, MDiv, MSW** elected for

a second term to a Board-At-Large position, **Francis Hymel, D.Min** elected to a Board-At-Large position, **David Tipton, CPA** elected Treasurer and **Benjamin Keyes, PhD** elected to fill the two remaining years of Rev. Robert Sears' Board position. We deeply appreciate your time and talents. **Region 1&2 Wildflowers** (programs on healing sexual abuse and trauma support groups) are growing in great numbers. Sponsored by Restoring the Heart Ministries under the leadership of Julie Woodley, **ACT** member (www.rthm.cc). A ten week men's abuse group was recently completed at the St. Joseph's Prayer Center. **Region 5's** Father Larry Carew directed a day long Healing Retreat in Trumbull, CT at his parish, Christ the King. **His prison work, DVDs on healing and retreats for healing sexual abuse** are well known (larrycarew@sbcglobal.net). **The Northeast Retreat** welcomed back Father Nigel Mumford as retreat master. He is the director of Christ the King Spiritual Life Center in the Episcopal Diocese of Albany



Fr. Robert Sears

(ctkcenter.org). The title "Preach the Kingdom, Heal the Sick", touched many, not only because of the inspirational topic, but because Fr. Nigel was living proof of God's healing power. Father Joe Scerbo served as Chaplin. The move of the Spirit was evident as the 'dynamic duo' ministered to those in attendance. Fr. Nigel is respected, as well, for his **"Welcome Home Initiative**, a program for members in the Armed Forces and their families. During the retreat, a Life in the Spirit Seminar was lead by Sister Betty Igo and her assistants as an opportunity to receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit for the first time, or to ask for a renewal of the Baptism of the Spirit. Opportunities will be available at the Act International Conference for another Life in the Spirit seminar. Be on the lookout at the **ACT International Conference for ACT authors' books**. Dr. Carole **McGinley Edland's** book, written with her granddaughter, "Devon has Cancer: A Tale of Two Angels" will be available as well as a selection of **Joan Carter McHugh's** many books. In addition, speakers, such as **Jackie Sitte**, will have their materials present for sale. **Region 12** How deeply saddened we were to hear that long time ACT member, Barbara Carlo, lost her husband, Robert Fitzgerald. Barbara and Robert had married just last January. May the peace of Christ flow over Barbara and through her in this deepest of sorrows.

click...

THE JOURNAL OF CHRISTIAN HEALING, 26-1, June 2010 is now online at www.actheals.com

The System has to be kept human: Integrating spirituality into contemporary healthcare by Russ Parker

Theology and Energy Healing by Robert Sears

Integrative Mental Health Treatment for Alcoholism and the Christ of Recovery by Charles Zeiders

HEART- Healing Emotional Affective Responses to Trauma: Clinical Applications, Part II by Benjamin Keyes

thought...



All human nature
Vigorously resists grace
Because grace changes us
And the change is painful.
(Flannery O'Connor)

book review...

NO STONES by Marnie Feree (Intervarsity Press) is a comprehensive approach to recovery for female sex and love/romance addicts. In part one, Marnie defines the secret sin of sexual addiction, then explores messages about being female. She details the consequences and cycle of addiction as it presents in females and provides a diagnostic tool. In part two, Marnie explores the roots of sexual addiction: unhealthy families, abuse, abandonment, generational patterns, and the core beliefs and emotions of an addict. In part three, Marnie outlines the path to recovery and healing: surrender and sobriety, disclosure, community, accountability, boundaries, healing from trauma, and on-going recovery. There is a special chapter for the husband, family, and friends of a female addict. Marnie's writing is engaging and professional. Highly recommended.



link...

Fr. R. McAlear's Healing course www.frmac.org ~ Listen for free.



REPORT ON THE WORK OF ACT COUNCILS: REGIONAL COORDINATORS, SPECIALTY GROUPS AND COMMITTEES

Douglas Schoeninger, PhD

The ACT Councils, Regional Coordinators, Specialty groups and Committees are strategically focused on outreach/recruiting and equipping/retaining members, implementing ACT's Strategic Plan, 2010-2013. Leadership at all levels, Board and Councils, are invested in listening to and serving our members as we all follow the Holy Spirit in implementing ACT's Vision and Mission. Conference calls are facilitating team work, mutual support and collaboration, and enabling much to be reviewed and updated on a regular basis. Much is being accomplished. Following are a few highlights:

- The Membership Committee, Marilyn Dolcetti, Chair (mdolcetti@aol.com) .
 - has developed recruiting and mentoring guidelines/helps which are being prepared for download from a members' toolbox on www.actheals.org.
 - established an ACT page on **facebook, Act heals** - If you have a facebook account, make Act heals a friend!
 - implemented joining ACT online.
- The Communications and Publications Committee, Francesca Franchina, Chair (FFranchina@aol.com) .
 - is developing Curriculum for ACT member formation.
 - has designed and printed a fresh and colorful new ACT brochure.
 - is continuously improving the ACT website – check it out (www.actheals.org)
 - increased publicity for ACT events and outreach to healthcare organizations.
- The Spiritual Life Committee, Jackie Sitte, Chair (jmsitte@verizon.net).
 - continues to deepen mutual care and understanding within ACT across denominational differences through regular conference calls and Conference presentations and workshops.
- The Program Development Committee, Jim DeMar, Chair (jimdemar@optonline.net) .
 - actively working to secure CEU credits for ACT events for our various specialties.
 - developing strong conference programs professionally and spiritually.
- The International Conference Committee, Michael White, Chair (mfw30@cox.net) .
 - writing a manual for conference preparations, including job descriptions.
 - increasing publicity and breadth of outreach for the International Conference.
 - enhancing Committee teamwork through regular conference calls.
- The Council of Specialty Groups, Royce Johnston, Chair (royce4@sbcglobal.net) .
 - are updating specialty web pages – take a look.
 - developing specialty brochures to insert in the ACT brochure – the nurses have taken the lead in this and provided a template to others.
 - actively communicating with specialty group members – the nurses, psychotherapists and clergy and religious specialty groups have taken the lead in this.
 - establishing a specialty group toolbox for members online– sample business cards, outreach letters, etc.
- Council of Regional Coordinators, Angele Desrosiers, Chair (desrosie@mts.net) and Ann Marie Porta, Co-Chair (portarj@juno.com) .
 - holds regular conference calls for regional coordinators for mutual support, inspiration, exchange of ideas and experience.
 - has developed, implemented and updated action plans for each active region flowing from the ACT 2010-2013 Strategic Plan.
 - regularly follows up with former members who have not renewed to keep in touch, encourage rejoining and solicit input.

SCRIPTURE

Continued from page 3

demons He cast out as well, not allowing them to reveal who he was" (Mark1: 34). (This is known as the Messianic Secret among Scripture scholars; Jesus did not want the news about who he was to get out yet. His time had not come).

"In the morning, "Jesus rose long before dawn, and went off to a lonely place where He prayed" (Mk 1: 35). Simon and friends went searching for Him. Finding Him, they proclaimed: "Everyone is looking

for you"(Mk 1: 37). Suggested translation.. 'C'mon, don't waste time, the crowds are calling for you, soak up the glory, time's a wasting.' "But Jesus' life had a different tempo to it. Be it early or late, he sought out solitude, listened, prayed, prepared Himself for the next step. Crowds? They could be fickle. "Let us go elsewhere," He said. He knew He was meant to be more than a miracle worker (T.Hicks). So, "He left Capernum quietly and went all through Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and driving out devils."He had a message to proclaim. After all, that is what he came out to do. (Gloria Doino, MA)

keep connected

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Association of Christian Therapists

6728 Old McLean Village Drive
McLean, VA 22101-3906

REMINDER: Use your member number (DIRECTLY next to your last name) to access the members only section of the ACT website at www.actheals.org

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PRAYER MATTERS

Joan Carter McHugh

Judy suffered from a rare form of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, which is now in remission, thanks to a stem cell transplant. While at a meeting at Sloan Kettering one day, she heard a pastor from New Jersey telling what happened to him when he had his stem cell transplant.

Patients first had to have their stem cells extracted, a process that took five hours. They were put in cubicles, similar to small holding rooms, separated by curtains. After they went home that day, someone from the medical staff would call them to report how many stem cells he or she had produced, and, if the amount were too small, they would have to return the next day. (They had to produce double the amount needed, somewhere around 4,000,000, that would be transplanted back into their system).

On the first day the pastor received the phone call telling him that the number he produced wasn't enough. When he and his wife returned on the second day, there was a couple in the next cubicle.

The husband was undergoing a stem cell extraction.

The couples began talking to pass the time. They were people of faith (Jewish and Christian) and soon the talk turned to prayer. The Christian pastor and the Jewish man offered to pray for each other, for successful stem cell procedures and for the general well being of their lives.

Later that afternoon, the pastor got a call from the hospital. "Don't come back tomorrow," the medical person said. At first, the pastor was crushed, thinking that he didn't produce enough stem cells, which meant that he was at a dead-end for ways to stop the spread of his cancer. Then came the good news: "I don't know what transpired in that room," the person said, "but you produced the most stem cells we've ever seen: 16,000,000!" There was a pause, followed by: "And so did the guy next to you!"

According to the pastor, the doctors were shocked.