



December 2015

“Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature.” (James 1: 2-3)

We recently had the privilege of celebrating the life of a very special woman, Karen Miller, when the Lord called her home in early November. She was the President and CEO of the Farmers Bank in Frankfort, and a devoted follower of Jesus Christ. Karen was instrumental in helping Grace on Wings obtain the financing to buy an airplane and medical equipment to begin the ministry in 2007. She had said, “I remember well the day Hal presented to me and our senior lender. The deep passion oozed out of him. The love of Jesus and commitment to this ministry was compelling.”

That same passion for Jesus was evident throughout Karen’s life, even when she was diagnosed with cancer two years ago.

Karen’s husband, Greg, said she never considered cancer the enemy. She merely viewed her trials as part of the journey that God had her on. And she knew that the journey gave her an opportunity to share the love of Christ with many people who may otherwise never hear about Jesus. It has been said that humility is not thinking less of yourself; it’s thinking of yourself less. That was Karen. She was always quick to inquire how you were doing rather than talk about her own problems. What a Christ-like attitude she had. Karen fought the good fight, she finished the race, and she kept the faith. Now she has received the crown of righteousness from the Lord in heaven. The legacy she left behind, standing firm in her faith to the end, should serve as a template for all of us as to how to face the inevitable trials that will occur in our own lives.

Mission organizations, like Christian believers, are not immune from difficulty. Obstacles often arise and grow like a cancer that threatens to discredit the God we are called to serve. Grace on Wings has had its share of trials the past few years. By the grace of God, however, we have been able to stand firm in our faith and continue to look to the needs of others. Karen’s example, following Christ’s life of humility and servitude, is one that we try to emulate each and every day.

As we enter our ninth year of ministry, we rejoice in the knowledge that God has allowed us to serve 370 patients thus far. The mission number is not of primary importance, but the destiny of the soul of each person we serve is eternally significant. We could not exist without the faithful support of our volunteers, donors, and prayer warriors. Please join with us in ministry so that together we can continue to make Jesus known to a dying world.

May God richly bless you so that you may be a blessing to others in His name.

Your brother in Christ,

Jim