

MY TESTIMONY OF GOD'S HEALING

by Kathy Falzone
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GOD is my Healer! Over 15 years ago, in the first few years of my long term pain and infirmities, GOD gave me the promise in Jeremiah 30:17; He said, "I will restore you to health and heal your wounds." Since 1996, I have experienced more pain physically, mentally, and emotionally than I have felt able to bear. But GOD has fulfilled His Word to me, which is for all believers, that "... He is faithful: He will not allow us to be tested beyond what we can bear; but will, with the adversity, also make a way to walk through it, so that we are able to successfully complete it." (1 Corinthians 10:13). Countless times, I wanted to die because I felt I could not bear the pain a moment longer.

Thankfully, this produced deeper and deeper desperation for God. And EVERY time He provided the way through. Each time, He also gave me spiritual revelation that I needed to overcome lies I believed and my own weaknesses and sins which contributed to my pain. So many times it seemed like I was "getting worse". During March of 2012, He made it clear that He had been restoring me to health and healing my wounds the whole time. I actually needed each step to help bring me to the place of health, wholeness, and freedom which He has brought me to now, so that "... when I am tested/proved, I will come forth as gold." (Job 23:10). I know there are more steps for the completion of my restoration, but I am finally confident that God's purpose is for me to have beauty for ashes NOW (Isaiah 61:3)... and I don't have to wait until Heaven.

God has used many people in the process of my healing. Other than His direct revelation to me and my continued relationship with my amazing husband, I think the other main source of help came through the people of The Church of The Hills. Pastor Ron Marinari's Biblical teaching has transformed my life and has been a huge part of my growth and healing. There are countless people who have prayed for me and encouraged me over all these years of extreme difficulties. "... On God I have set my hope that He will continue to deliver me, as you help me by your prayers..." (2 Corinthians 1:8-11). I give thanks to God and to each person who has been and continues to be a part of my healing and growth.

I would like to share some of the specific things that God has taught me along this journey of pain and healing. Much of it relates to my relationship with my husband, Loren. My hope and prayers are that many others will be helped, especially in their marriages, as a result of what I share.

To give you a picture of how difficult my journey was for 16+ years, I share these details: I felt like one of the “living dead” for about half of those years. I was in severe physical, mental, and emotional pain. I know what it is like to have so much physical pain that it is difficult to walk or even stand... and I was unable to find a doctor that knew why -- even when I was hospitalized and underwent many tests. I also know what it is like to have insomnia to the point of my body jerking and my brain “hallucinating/dreaming” while I was awake. One time I actually fell asleep while I was walking... another time while I was driving. I know what it is like to have 48 hour headaches, to have a brain that is unable to make the smallest decisions like sorting laundry or choosing clothes to wear. Many times my brain hurt just trying to think; positive thoughts were crowded out with innumerable negative thoughts. I was unable to have normal conversations, so I often isolated myself. I felt dead or in so much pain emotionally that I wanted to die countless times. I felt worthless and unable to do anything of value...

My wrong views, false beliefs, sins, and weaknesses were destroying me and my relationship with my husband, Loren. I believe that they were also preventing him from doing the very things that would meet my needs and help me to feel loved by him. I continued to feel hurt and unloved most of the time UNTIL God’s supernatural healing in March 2012. God revealed to me that I was unable to appreciate a lot of Loren’s good qualities & actions and how much of a blessing that he was to me. I was focused on MY pain and HIS faults and HIS “seeming” selfishness to have his needs met without caring about my pain or choosing to make the time to do the “little” things that would help me to feel loved by him. I tried to think and do the right things... I poured myself out trying to be a good wife and mother, but I failed often. I began to hate myself and what I had “become”. Over time, GOD helped me to believe His unconditional LOVE for me and I improved some.

However, my husband and I were still both stuck in a crazy cycle of trying to love each other, but not being able to really give what the other needed. We both felt unloved and were being torn apart inside.

I continually thank and praise the Lord that He took me through so much pain to get me to the place where I was able to see how much of it was my own “fault”. That special evening in March, while I was alone, I began to weep and cry out to God... convinced that there was NO ONE on this earth that would be able to show me how to be free. Over the years, I had told many professional counselors, and a few special friends, about my struggles... no one was able to show me what I really needed. That night, I told God that HE HAD to restore me to health and heal my wounds because there was NO person that could! I could not stop weeping, so I laid down on the couch and asked Him what He was trying to do. He reminded me that children are a blessing from Him and so is my husband. I began to thank Him... He then showed me why I had been unable to

appreciate and fully respect and forgive my husband. It was because of MY wrong beliefs and focus... that was why I was unable to forget the past pain when the present pain felt the same. I had actually struggled with the lie that my husband did not love me since the beginning of our 28+ years of marriage. I had not felt love FOR him for many years except on rare occasions. GOD ALONE has kept our marriage together. His truth of the importance of Covenant relationship was deep within us. I thought that my only way “out” was death. God spared my life many times.

Back to that night in March...I began to strongly desire for my husband to come home so that I could tell him what God had shown me. I continued to weep frequently over the next 4+ hours as I remembered the pain of the past and felt overwhelmed by what GOD had done. Loren finally came home after a few hours and I asked his forgiveness and shared what God had shown me. I felt AMAZINGLY FREE like I had NEVER felt before in my life. We went to bed that night in AWE!

During the following week, Loren and I had many long conversations... during one of them I asked him what he thought when he saw me in so much emotional pain for so long and yet continued to do the very things that were crushing me. He shared that he had also felt like he was being torn apart. WOW...and all those years I misunderstood because he never told me how difficult it was for him, and I incorrectly thought that I was mostly meeting his needs!

God has given us victory through our trials. No weapon forged against us has prospered, just as God promised His servants in Isaiah 54:17. God has been close to us in our suffering and it has helped us to become more intimate with Him, just like Philippians 3:9 says.

Besides sustaining and restoring us, God has given us a ministry to couples. God is helping us to sustain and restore others. Couples In Bloom is about marriage discipleship, where marital intimacy is learned from the same pattern as our relationship with God. Our website has short, practical articles which share our firsthand revelations along the way: CouplesInBloom.com

By the wounds of Jesus, we are healed (1 Peter 2:24). God indeed is making all things – even the difficult, painful things – work together for our good! (Romans 8:28).

We continue to be in AWE of God and what He has accomplished because of our desperation for HIM and our willingness to persevere through a painful marriage. We are enjoying this “new and fresh” relationship with our new understanding and perspectives every day. GOD is helping us to break the wrong patterns of communication and actions that we were stuck in. This is the best so far and the BEST is yet to come as we grow

more intimate with GOD and with each other. GOD is so kind to redeem our pain for authentically Heavenly relationships! We are delighted to spend the rest of our lives and all of eternity praising Him. Join us! We pray you enter and keep growing in the exclusive blessings of God's covenant relationship also!

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