



When Rod was home waiting for a liver transplant, we had visits from many friends who loved us and cared for us. One of those visits came from one of my childhood friends and her mother. I can remember the sweetness of their visit, their encouraging words, and their eagerness to pray for us and with us. They brought not only themselves but dinner and a gift. The gift was a beautiful picture of Jesus carrying a hurting and wounded man and it had a Bible verse written on it.

I took a look at the picture and saw Rod. He was hurting and wounded but Jesus would carry him through this season. Then I fixed my eyes and heart on the verse. My troubled heart was calmed.

John 14:27 (NKJV)

“Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.”

Christ promised to give us the gift of *His* peace; His *perfect* peace. In any and every situation we can have peace in spite of our trials because of the peace with God that Jesus brought us through his sacrifice for our sins. In our trials, we can have joy, and experience His love.

John 14:27 would become my life verse and one that I would hide in my heart and freely share with hurting and anxious people around me. The picture is still on the wall of our bedroom and serves as a daily reminder of how God’s Word gives us comfort when we are troubled and afraid.

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