

"That's How He Rolls!"

Shane Varga Update, 7-28-09

I don't know if I can explain what has happened to me in the last week. My last update I was saying how my energy level is as low as it has ever been, how weak I felt, and how the accumulation of all my chemo was really taking its toll on me. Starting this past weekend this all changed and changed dramatically. I am almost scared to write this in case I "jinx" it, but it is what it is for however long this lasts. In fact, I have even been a little scared to test how I feel right now. The bottom line is..... I have energy and I feel amazing. Honestly, I feel better at this moment than I have at any point in my treatments. It makes zero sense and I can't even believe it. My body feels strong, I have endurance, and I just don't feel like I am going through chemo right now (this was written prior to my chemo on Friday, July 24th). The only thing that has changed that I can think of is my prayer life. Tell you a little more about that later.

One of the best things that has happened to me in a while was this weekend. If you read about the [Mishawaka City tournament](#) last weekend I was able to hit a home run. This was a huge deal to me. This probably seems insignificant to anyone reading, but it wasn't to me in the bigger picture. All year I have tried to hit a home run. I wanted to do it a long time ago because I knew the longer my treatments went on, the weaker I would get and thus have a pretty slim chance of accomplishing this. The longer it went on and it didn't happen, the more it drove me to accomplish it. So, why was it such a big deal? Because I shouldn't have been able to do it going through what I am going through. I mean my strength is gone, my body is beat up, and even to get out to the field is a big deal sometimes. I guess you could say I really like doing things that are hard, that people tell me I can't do, or things that someone just shouldn't be able to do without everything coming together perfectly all at once.

In the few games I was able to play this year, I was able to connect with the ball with everything I had and came up about 20-30 feet short of the fence due to my lack of strength. Now, here is the amazing part and what made the home run even more special to me. It was important to me, I really wanted to accomplish this to prove I can accomplish even the most difficult things with the right mindset. Anyways, I pulled out the big guns on this one. I went to God and begged him to just give me one home run. Listen, God doesn't answer every little thing we ask for just because we want it, but I think in this case the Lord knew it was not about a home run, it was about making this point. Things that can't normally be done, can be done with His power. It didn't matter what little I had physically that day, God strengthened me and He trumps what the flesh is capable of doing. So, if I can only hit a ball 260 of the 300 feet, it doesn't matter because he finds a way.

Here is the cool part of the story. We were set to play on Rose North, a diamond notorious for not allowing home runs. We were set to play our first 2 games at that diamond and these were the only 2 games I could make that day. The first game ended and we were set to play back at that diamond in a few hours. Remember, I prayed to God to please just let me have this. The important thing about this is I felt confirmation it would happen. I knew it was going to happen. However, how

would I accomplish this at a field that doesn't allow for many home runs and the wind blowing in which takes another 20-30 feet off any ball hit in the air? The thing is I didn't question it. I felt God had told me he would allow something to happen and I just believed with all my heart it would happen. I remember thinking, who cares if this seems impossible, God can do anything He wants. So again, my thought was I just take the swings and let Him do His thing. When we went to the North diamond to meet and warm up before the game something funny happened. Our game got changed to the West diamond where the wind was blowing out like a hurricane. One pitch on my first at bat of the game later and it was all over, done deal. I hit my home run.

So, why would God grant a prayer about a stupid home run request? I think because of my current situation as a result of that day and what anyone reading should remember from this. No, we can't do many things in life we wish we had the power to change, but with God, we can do anything in His will for us. Since that day I have adopted a new attitude. I'm just not going to be affected by chemo like I have been lately. I'm going to be stronger than I think possible because there is another level beyond what we feel we are capable of. If tapped into God's strength we can do more than we know we are able to. That is confusing, but important. We can do more than we know we are able to. Meaning, I know I can't pick up a car, but you have heard stories of average people doing just that to save someone's life. Literally picking the front end of a car up off someone. Could that person do that on any other day. NO, but on that day they had the faith that they could and they did. With faith, we can overcome anything.

I mention God a lot and give Him all the credit. I don't do it to tell people they need to give their life to God if they haven't or they better get their act together or else. I am not like that. I am not trying to shove God down people's throats. What I want to do is get it out there what God has done for me and really pray that people will give God the same chance to perform miracles in their lives too. By this I don't mean what can God do for me to help me to enjoy my life more. What I mean is for God to bring someone out of a place they can't get out of without His power, help them get through something they don't have the strength to get through and don't see how they can endure, provide for them in a situation that seems hopeless and destined for a total loss, or provide healing for something that can't be healed. The bottom line is faith. If you can believe for it, it can happen if your heart is right. I am not saying if it doesn't happen your heart was not right, but if I pray for God to give me a million dollars because I am lazy and don't want to work for the rest of my life, I don't see any reason for God to bless me with it. However, if I prayed to God for a million dollars because I wanted to bless someone with every penny of it to send to some place I heard about in Africa it might happen.

Here's the funny thing though, if it did happen I guarantee some place in Africa would be praying faithfully for a million dollars to start a project to bring people to Christ. Thinking.... this seems ridiculous to ask for a million dollars, but Lord I know with you all things are possible. That's just how he rolls!