

# God's Got This!!

Back in July 2015, Bob had open heart surgery. It was a huge ordeal and a very long surgery as both his mitral valve and aortic valve were replaced, numerous by-passes were done, a hole in his heart was repaired, an ablation procedure (or two) was done to correct heart rhythm, and a few other issues were addressed. He ended up with A-fib and a pace maker but all in all, it was a successful surgery.

At the time of the surgery, my sister Christie suggested that I stop fretting and write down the blessings of the surgery. At that moment, I thought she was nuts. What blessings could we be given during this period? Dealing with open heart surgery was far from a feeling of being blessed.

But I took her advice and kept notes on a little notepad in my purse of the things that were going on that were blessings. What happened was this list of blessings grew and grew. I was being shown that God has His hand on everything and God had us in His control. I pulled out that little notepad many times a day to remind myself that God was in charge and to praise Him for the blessings. I would read my list of blessings to Bob. I would read them over and over to myself. They calmed me as they were the proof I needed that God had us in His hand. I could stop worrying as God was in charge!

I have kept that notepad and thought I would share just some the blessings of that surgery.

- We had recently returned from a vacation to China and fortunately Bob had not had any medical problems during that trip.
- I had recently had a minor hernia surgery that went so smoothly. I might not have had that surgery if I had known that Bob needed a MAJOR surgery.
- Everything I needed to do for Kyle and Elizabeth's

wedding in a few months was done already. Bob and I had our new clothes for the wedding and the rehearsal dinner was planned and organized.

- The scheduling nurse rushed Bob's surgery and facilitated getting it scheduled quickly so that Bob would have time to mend and heal before Kyle and Elizabeth's wedding in October. I had asked if we could delay the surgery until AFTER K&E's wedding and was told that was not possible due to Bob's condition. She listened to my concerns and jumped through hoops for us.
- My work can be unpredictable and demanding but God cleared my schedule and allowed me to have all the time I needed to be at the hospital and help Bob at home for several weeks.
- Bob's cardiologist is a Kaiser Doctor but they partner with Scripps for Heart surgeries. Bob's surgeon was a top-of-the line surgeon causing many people to ask us, "How did you get Dr. Brewster?"
- Bob's hospital was Scripps Prebys Cardiovascular Institute—a brand new, top of the line facility that had JUST opened. Bob had a pretty posh room and a lovely view!
- Friends and family came to the hospital in droves. Bob and I both needed this so much!
- Bob needed a Nephrologist (kidney Doctor) after the surgery and by "luck of the draw", Bob was assigned a specialist that grandson Cameron knew professionally. Bob got extra special attention from Dr. Friend.
- Once home, cards and phone calls came along with visits and food!
- Bob's medical insurance covered ALL costs except for his \$100.00 copay. Over \$520,000 covered. Seriously!
- And more and more and more...

***LEAVE EVERYTHING IN GOD'S HAND AND YOU WILL EVENTUALLY SEE***

## ***GOD'S HAND IN EVERYTHING.***

It doesn't matter whether you are or aren't going through trials; my suggestion to you is that you start listing your blessings today as well. Write them down. Type them in the Note section on your phone. Text them to a friend. Post them on Facebook. Scribble them on a scrap of paper. Write them neatly on an index card.

Focus on God's hand in EVERYTHING! Big things, little things, all things.

Focus on the blessings.

I think its time for me to start a new blessings notepad today, too!





A sweet picture of his daughters loving on him while in intensive care.

Bob's surgeon, Dr. Brewster

Bob's favorite Get-Well Card!