

# Stories of Healing

How God has worked in our Church Family

Week 2

## How God Used Cornerstone to Help Me Through COVID-19

### Russ Robins' Story

*The Lord sustains him on his sickbed; in his illness you restore him to full health.*

Psalm 41.3

By all accounts, the COVID unit can be a very lonely and fearful place to find oneself. Many of us think “it could never happen to me.” For Russ Robins though, this nightmare scenario was a reality. How did God give him comfort and help in this time?

Russ Robins is one of our shepherds. He has been with the congregation here for a long time. In this video, he shares from his heart what it was like to contract the virus and end up hospitalized in a COVID unit. Afflicted with not only the virus, but also a crushing sense of loneliness, he recounts how God worked through the livestream and the members of the Cornerstone Church who reached out to him to encourage him and give him strength of will to maintain faith.

In this story, we learn about the power of our relationships in Christ. We also learn about how utilizing every avenue of connection available can touch someone's heart. When church functions less like a book club and more like a family, we see moments like what Russ described.

In the valley, Russ was alone and admittedly somewhat frightened that it could actually be the end. There is no doubt from hearing his story though, that God was not done with him yet, and that it wasn't his time to leave this world. On the other side of the valley, Russ reflected how much it meant for him to have people in the congregation texting, calling and in his yard praying for him. God showed himself in the middle of that trial.

### Applications and Takeaways

- Our relationships in Christ matter. *A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another (John 13.34).*

- The little acts of faith that we do makes a difference. *And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward* (Matthew 10.42).
- Prayer is a powerful thing. *Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working* (James 5.16).
- We can see each other through whatever challenges come our way this side of eternity. *And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it* (Matthew 16.18).
- Christ never abandons us, even in loneliness and affliction. Even if we are not delivered from earthly trials, we have the promise that we will receive the ultimate healing at the end of our journey. *And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age* (Matthew.20b).

1. What do you think of the story?

2. How can God use difficult situations like these to reveal himself?

3. What are some of the most powerful relationships you've had in Christ?

