

DEAD 34 minutes Where Was I ?

*Originally shared in front of my church family on June 1st 2014
Recounting of events related to April 14th 2014*

Much of the church family is aware that I recently have had a couple of rough weeks. Many of my Christian brothers and sisters have been praying for my health and for my family's needs. Pastor Duane has asked me if I could share some of that with you today.

A month ago, I had been telling Pastor Duane and others that I had been trying to piece together some spiritual and scriptural information that God had been sharing with me and that I felt like something big was coming.

A couple of weeks later my something big turned out to be very different than anything I could have imagined. On the night of 4-14-14 at about 11:44pm...I **died**.

For 34 minutes I had no pulse and no heartbeat. The EMTs worked very hard to revive me using CPR, I received over 3000 chest compressions, and about a dozen defibrillator shocks to my chest. Later, I was told that they depleted the resuscitation drugs of the 1st ambulance and much of the 2nd, but no response. Fire Captain Steve Terrones and his team were trying everything they could because they were determined not to lose me.

Outside of the house Pastor Duane was praying with his wife Tracy and my then wife Christina. It was a bit after the 30 minute mark of the EMT's working on me when Pastor Duane went into the house where I remained dead on the floor and prayed. Years later, I asked Duane what was so special about his prayer and he said he simply prayed. Whatever he did, it worked, heading back out of the house one of the EMTs came running by and said, "I finally have a faint pulse and a heartbeat" and that they were taking me to the hospital.

After 9 days I was brought out of the coma and I became conscious enough to understand that I was in a hospital and had lived through a heart attack. In addition, there were complications of having aspirated stomach acids that had burned my lungs badly.

While lying in the hospital bed I stared at the walls and wondered, "Why me? Why now? Why didn't you just keep me"? I know God, you've been sharing a lot of spiritual stuff with me for a reason, but right now I can hardly remember any of it. What could be the reason that I was going through this? I couldn't figure it out.

I discovered that I had a memory, that either before the hospital or in the hospital, to help with the pain, I would meditate. While I was doing this some weird and fascinating things would happen. It's hard to describe, but even though my eyes were closed I felt surrounded by bright warm colors. All around me in all directions was a yellow and orange glow. It was extremely warm, comforting and peaceful. Those peaceful feelings I had, were in stark contrast to the reality of the bad parts of my hospital stay. Much later, I began to share with others that those peaceful feelings were actually part of my experiences in heaven. As I expected, people didn't know how to respond to that or what to say or think. Now I have shirts that say **DEAD-34 minutes-Where Was I?**

Twelve days later when we got home from the hospital we were parking and pulled up next to a fire truck. As I was being wheelchaired by the fire truck, the EMTs were walking up and they recognized me. We talked for a while and I thanked them over and over again. They called me their "miracle man" and asked me if I would pose for a picture with them. When they talked about having revived me after over 30 minutes, I could tell by their faces and their voices it was unusual and that they were proud of being a part of that accomplishment.

Before the heart attack we had started refurbishing our bathroom. I later found out that while I was in the hospital the projects had been taken over by friends and family. The bathroom was gutted and refurbished, an entry way was redone and we have been receiving help renovating two bedrooms.

The generosity and selflessness of others continues to amaze me. We have been receiving continuous prayers, contributions and an incredible amount of help. Normally it makes me uncomfortable to receive help from others. I feel much more comfortable giving than receiving. Not being allowed to lift over ten pounds keeps me from doing much of anything. With all the refurbishing, moving of furniture and other work needing to be done, I now find myself putting aside my pride and gladly accepting the help of others.

I can't remember much of what God had been trying to share with me, but weeks before the heart attack God did show me that in Matthew 22:37-39 in response to the question asked of Jesus (which is the greatest commandment (Singular) Jesus response was: *(Love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul and all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment).* (Singular) And the second is like it. *(Love your neighbor as yourself).*

I have shared this with dozens of people and asked if they thought that the best way to show our love of God to God was by showing our love for others through selflessness and serving others. It seems to me then that the two commandments Jesus is describing are very similar and share the same message and one Singular theme, Love God by being selfless and serving others. I have been truly blessed recently to be a witness and recipient of that Love and selflessness.

In the past, I have spent a lot of time proving to myself why I should believe in God. Scientific, physical, historical and prophetic evidence has shown me the validity of the Bible and has given me plenty of proof of the existence of God. However, going through this ordeal and having these experiences remind me that my faith and my belief in Jesus is based on the heart, based on love, based on God's love for me and my love for him.

I fully believe that the way I can show God that I love him is by loving others. And the way I can show others that I love them is by serving them. So my bottom line is that I will serve God by serving others.

God hear my prayer; please help me to help others with their needs. If however, their need is salvation, please help me to do whatever it takes to unveil that to them so that they may seek it, and by seeking it they will find it and receive it from you. God, I thank you that whether I'm in a hospital bed or in your presence, I know that that warm, comforting, peaceful glow of your presence is with me 24/7.

GOD I KNOW THAT I KNOW

FAITH, COMPASSION & CARE...the story continues April 2015

*We kept saying we don't know how or when He's going to do it, but we have **faith** that God is going to continue to use this event for His glory. Steve Kuhn*

We thought that it might take years and years for us to see God resolve the potentially devastating financial impact that the heart attack, coma and prolonged hospital stay could have on us, but we were going to be patient, waiting, watching and trusting in His timing.

After six months we decided to have a special celebration dinner. We had received and began making the payments on the ambulance bill, a curiously low hospital bill, and the seven doctor bills totaling just over \$20,000; a lot of money, but not too devastating. In fact, the total of the bills seemed very low, but after six months I hoped that was all of them. So we celebrated because that amount seemed doable.

Two days later we received an additional hospital bill. OUCH! The envelope should have had a warning on it. **Please sit down before opening.** The new bill was for an additional \$341,944.02. I repeat OUCH! Definitely not so doable. My then wife Christina and I just looked at each other and laughed and then we gulped. I felt naïve to have hoped it would be just \$20,000. I guess they waited the six months so as not to cause me to have another heart attack when I received the bill.

We spent a few seconds doing some quick math in our heads before we came to the same conclusion. **No possible way**...on our own,... paying this bill would be next to impossible. We immediately placed it into God's hands. We didn't know how long it would take or how He was going to do it. We just knew by **faith** that it would be accomplished and would glorify Him.

2 Corinthians 9:8 New Living Translation

Says: And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others.

With me not working and Christina only working part time so she can homeschool, we had very limited cash flow. But regardless, we faithfully continued to send out small checks to the other nine different entities that I credit with helping to save my life.

One day I received a letter from the ambulance company. The AMR, American Medical Response's letter stated that my account had been turned over to a collection agency. Damaging our credit would also damage the only avenue we had to make that kind of money. Our dream was for God to help us to help others obtain affordable housing. We were planning to buy and fix up homes, and then help them to purchase or rent them more affordably.

Damaging our credit could also hinder us in our long standing dream to help all nine of our children purchase their first homes. This dream has been setback numerous times. We had recently invested time and money into a 3 day weekend real-estate seminar that would help us back on track with this dream, but bad credit would certainly not help.

I talked to Maureen at AMR and she said that being sent to collections may have been a mistake and they would get back to me. They may have considered the difficulty I would have paying my \$361,000.00 worth of medical bills with bad credit and they stopped the collection agency. They also told me of a program they have called **COMPASSIONATE CARE**. They had us fill out some paperwork and a short time later we received a letter stating that the remaining \$3,318.00 balance for my ambulance ride had been written off.

Marian Medical Center has its own form of **COMPASSION CARE**. From the beginning they had been trying to help us with financial assistance. For months and months they looked into and tried numerous ways to help with our bill. Jenny, who had to have worked very hard and long on reducing our bill, sent us a final determination letter. A reduction determination had been made.....For the account of patient Steve Kuhn the bill has been reduced..... by 100%..... Your \$341,944.02 **debt** has been **forgiven**.....They even repaid us for some payments we had already made.

In the Lord's prayer Jesus instructs us by saying, "*And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors*". *Matthew 6:12*. As we considered sharing this story with others, Christina thought of that scripture and also the parable of the Unmerciful Servant whose debt was forgiven but did not forgive others of their debts. She suggested we cancel the debts that others owed us. I agreed and we contacted those people and let them know. But the really good news is that if people are willing to accept it, their debt to God has also been forgiven, thanks to Jesus' completed work on the cross.

From the very beginning, people would say how terrible to have gone through that heart attack experience. However, we have **FAITH** in God's word, and that the hard (seemingly impossible) things that happen in our lives are just God's opportunity to show Himself and draw others to Him. We have watched as the events related to this heart attack have become blessings for us and for others. *Romans 8:28 says: And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.*

I have not seen or met all of the people that have helped our family this past year. And although I will probably have little opportunity to thank them or pay them back for all that they have done, I will keep them all in my prayers. I will pray that they all continue to serve others and live wonderful lives. But most importantly, I will hope and pray that they will find out how to allow Jesus to forgive all their debts and that they get repaid for their **COMPASSION, CARE** and kindness and accept Jesus' free gift.

Compassion n. 1. Sympathetic and concern for the sufferings or misfortunes of others.

Care n. 3. Attentive assistance or treatment to those in need:

Faith n. 1. complete trust or confidence in someone or something.

2. strong belief in God or in the doctrines of a religion

I can hardly wait to see what He has in store for us next.

THE MEANING OF LIFE

Accept All that He is, Accept All that He's done, Accept Him

With April 2017 approaching, I decided to take out the old letters and look back to the events of my own **good dying day**. After reading the letters, I realized that God has been showing me that there's more for me to say about this story. "Steve, what does *life mean* to you now?"

Well, I know now that my life does have meaning and I know that my life is worth living, my previous life, my current life, and my life yet to come. All of these are a part of my story, past, present and future.

I am very happy to be able to be here, and have the opportunity and the honor of paying my last doctor bill in person. What a blessing to have been so provided for. Dear God, I love you and it's comforting to know that you love me. Thanks Daddy for all Your provision.

This April 14th is 3 years to the day, so we will be celebrating the 3rd anniversary of my **good dying day**. At first I thought that it sounded kinda weird celebrating somebody dying, until I realized that this year's "Good Friday" is also on April 14th as was the night I died. Good Friday is a world-wide celebrated **Good Dying Day**, GDD. If you're unsure of what's being celebrated on that day you're probably not alone. Many people find it shocking how little attention is given to that day, especially taking into account its importance.

I used to view the resurrection (aka Easter) as the most important event, it shows Jesus' power over death, our future resurrection, and unlike other religions, Christianity has a living God. But now I'm of the opinion that the crucifixion was the most impactful event ever. (Ever since Adam took a bite out of that *stupid* fruit anyway). On the cross the very second that Jesus breathed His last, our sins were paid for. Instantly our blessed eternal life was made available to be received. Jesus showed His power over death and His authority to make salvation available for us all. Good Friday honors Jesus for paying that horrific price for all sin, which enables us to receive that awesome, *out of this world*, free gift of salvation.

From now on my celebrating is going to be more focused on **Good Dying Day**, more than on the resurrection, more than on candy and more than on cute fluffy bunnies. (I have added GDD **Good Dying Day** aka-Good Friday to my other, more accurately named, celebrations; HRD Happy Resurrection Day, aka-Easter; GGTD Giving God Thanks Day, aka-Thanks Giving; and the very popular HRCMB Happy Religious Celebration of the Messiah's Birthday, aka-Merry Christmas). In simplest terms, I believe these to be more accurate names for these holidays, these **HOLY-DAYS**.

Having died, and then having come back, a lot of people have been **curious** as to what I experienced. Were there angels? Was there light at the end of a tunnel? Did you meet Jesus? What do you remember during those 34 minutes? Do you remember floating above your dead body while it was lying on the floor and the EMTs were working to revive you? People sure are **curious** about dying.

People are also **curious** as to whether I have some insight, some knowledge as to **the meaning of life**? Pondering this question, I've discovered that to me it's actually three questions in one.
Why am I here? Where did I come from? Where do I go after this?

Where did I come from?

I think, and most other believer's think that we are all created by God.

Where do we go after this?

Most Christian believers think that after our life here, we go to heaven. However, I have found that some believers are not as confident about this as others. Some think about going to heaven in their heads, others believe it in their hearts and still others live it. Those that live it every day experience a rare freedom. If your mindset is already in the kingdom of heaven then you have the confidence and freedom to focus on others as Jesus calls us to, instead of being overly focused on ourselves.

With my somewhat unique experiences **I know that I know** that heaven is real. If that warm, comfortable, completely peaceful feeling that I experienced after my heart attack, is indeed a sampling of heaven, then I'm all in. And according to my reaction after I regained consciousness in the hospital and then found out that I was here and not there, well let's just say apparently, I would have greatly preferred being **There!**

When my Mom died I was crushed...still am. Even though it's impossible for me to know if she's in heaven, or anybody else for that matter, I'm thinking that getting to heaven is my only chance to see any of them ever again. Having realized this, I have gotten very serious about making sure I get there. There are so many people there that I look forward to seeing and being with again.

Why am I here?

My favorite answer to this question is, in simplest terms, eternal life. My eternal life and others eternal life. Whether we believe so or not we will all experience one eternity or another. It is my belief that we show God we love Him, by showing and sharing love to others. We share that love by helping people. And helping them receive eternal life would be the greatest help of all.

How do we help others receive eternal life? I think it starts with them being **curious**. I think we were all designed and created with curiosity built into us. It may sound obvious, but I don't believe that anyone has ever come to believe in God, without first being **curious** about whether He exists or not.

Yes, I agree that it's important for people to hear the gospels and read the scriptures. However, I also think something has to catch their attention first. They have to be a little bit **curious** before they can show interest, they have to have some interest, before they're up for listening, they'll have to really listen before they can hear, and it takes hearing to be able to believe...and then they have to believe in order to **accept** and receive.

What's my part in this? I believe my part is to make myself available to be used by God, to say yes to whatever he asks of me. If He asks me to use one of my strengths, I say yes. If He asks me to use one of my weaknesses, I say yes. If He asks for anything in between, I simply say **Yes Lord, Yes Lord, Yes Yes Lord**.

I want to be doing whatever it takes to inspire somebody to get **curious** about God, to sow that seed and let God grow it. If God brings us someone that's **curious**, then we should have answers. We should at least be willing to try to help them find answers. No matter what the question is, no matter what they're **curious** about. We should try to help them. I think that's a part of nurturing the seed.

Isn't obtaining eternal life and receiving salvation, as simple as just **Accepting, Accept all He is. Accept all He's done. Accept Jesus**. The best we know how, just **Accept**. According to the example set by the thief on the cross it can be just that easy... And Jesus said to him, "*Truly I tell you, today you will be with Me in Paradise.*" Luke 23:43 NIV.

THE MEANING OF LIFE can be about having an opportunity to make free-will choices. Choosing to **Accept**, or not **Accept** can be the main reason for our existence on this planet. I believe ever since the garden of Eden, it has been of the utmost importance to God to allow for free-will choices. Our ancestors Adam and Eve chose the wrong fruit and caused a consequence that we have all inherited. This disobedience, this breaking of moral rules is now in our genes. Even though God put inside us the knowledge of right and wrong, we don't like to take responsibility for our actions, just like Adam and Eve.

When I was younger, we had a lot of fruit trees and my Dad told me, "Sure, you're allowed to help yourself to any fruit you want, just don't choose any that aren't ripe yet". Mom told me, "Sure, borrow the car, just don't speed or run red lights". I admit (confess) I ate the wrong fruit and I broke many laws and I broke the moral rules (sinned) many times as well. To my shock and amazement, Jesus covered them all. I knew I didn't deserve this coverage, this grace, this forgiveness, but I found out that Jesus loves us all, including me personally. "ME"? I think "No way", Yes way! He always has and always will no matter what. I think NICE!!

THE MEANING OF LIFE can also include being fruitful, producing and being productive. If we're here we might as well make the best of it. I have always shared with my kids that we should always strive to have a positive effect on others. I ask them why would we ever want to affect other people's lives negatively. We can share this good, positive fruit, by serving and giving to others, to the best we know how, to the best of our abilities, we can show and share our love, with **faith, compassion, and care**.

THE MEANING OF LIFE also includes living it. It's evident that we're also here to enjoy God's creation, and all that that entails. Whether we know it or believe it, we are all God's creation and have been created to enjoy this life. Jesus said, "*My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life*" John 10:10 NLT.

The Bible also mentions that our time here (on this imperfect planet) is short, *it's just vapor*, tiny droplets of mist. If you spray mist into the air it instantly begins to disappear, dissipates, vanishes. Almost immediately it's gone. In contrast, eternity has no imperfections and is forever, and I'm looking forward to spending it with my friends and family. All those that have become **curious** about God and have discovered the simplicity of **accepting** and receiving Jesus's free admission ticket into the kingdom of heaven. The Bible does tell us a little bit about heaven, but I can hardly wait to begin experiencing the unimaginable meaning of being there forever. I don't know about you, but I'm intrigued by the thought of what eternity in paradise will be like.

I would have to say that I am definitely an example of that old saying that "no one knows for sure when their time is going to be up or when they will breath their last breath". My fear is that I will not find someone that I thought for sure would be with me in heaven. What went wrong? What more could I have done? What did I do that day that was more important than helping them become more **curious** about God and getting into heaven. On the battlefield there's a motto: "*no man left behind*". I would like to make that motto my prayer.

Because of free will, nobody can be forced or tricked into **accepting** God. However, if they choose to be **curious**, there is a lot of hard evidence of His existence and of the validity of the Bible out there. I offer up my help, and then they can make their own opinions and perceptions as to what is the truth.

Accepting without knowing 100% for certain, I believe is by God's design. He makes allowance for at least 1% uncertainty in order to require us to have, and use faith. Learning all about faith and what it can do, and understanding how to use it can be very empowering. "*Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen*". Hebrews 11:1 KJ version

Post Script:

Are you listening?

Quiet yourself and listen.

Block out the world and listen.

And when you hear something don't be afraid, don't just dismiss it, don't try to run from it.

Listen deeper. Try to hear more of what He's telling you.

And if you feel compelled to act, don't dismiss it, don't run from it, instead say yes.

The more you say yes the easier it gets, and the happier you'll be.

The more you say yes the fear will run away, instead of you running away.

Say yes and let your purpose be about your eternal life and the eternal life of others.

How long is eternity? Eternity is longer than if every grain of sand on every beach, in all the oceans and all the deserts on this planet represented 1 million years each, eternity is longer than that.

How short is our time on this planet?

In comparison to eternity, our time here is shorter than one millionth, millionth, millionth, of a millisecond.

It sounds like a very short amount of time. Keeping that in mind could help make it easier to put up with a little nonsense during this life, in order to get to the good stuff that the next life has to offer.

What should I try to accomplish before I leave this planet?

Perhaps after having solidified the most desired eternity for oneself, one could possibly say yes to helping others solidify their most desirable eternity. **Steve Kuhn: bus ride pep talk to himself 2015**

Is heaven real? My experiences have me convinced that the answer is yes.

And when the time is right I would really rather be there than here.

What's the meaning of life? On this planet the meaning of life should be, to get there, to get to heaven.

Three years ago I stared at the hospital room walls and wondered why me, why now, God why didn't you just keep me. If the answer to that question is that at least one more person makes it into heaven because of something I had a hand in, then my purpose, my reason for being here, has come to fruition.

Why am I here? The answer is: God.

Where did I come from? The answer is: GOD.

Where am I going after this? The answer is: GOD.

What's the meaning of life? I hope and pray that we all find that God is the answer.

Accept All that He is, Accept All that He's done, Accept Him.

Update: As I was writing this, I received an unexpected 1 year loan from my bank. I contacted Dr. Somma, my heart surgeon, to see about making a big payment towards my last remaining doctor bill. Dr. Somma heard that I had offered to go into Credit Card debt because I thought it was the right thing to do for him. He had Kay call me back on Monday and told me to pay only \$400 instead of the \$6799.00 remaining balance. When I asked Angela why he would do that, all we could come up with was that he must be extremely kind and generous.

Throughout this **Good Dying Day** experience I have witnessed and received so much kindness and generosity. I will commit this second chance at life to live out and exhibit what I have experienced. I cannot begin to thank all of those that have done so much.

I hope this letter reflects a small portion of my gratitude.

Thanks, and God Bless you all...

**I believe LOVE is (Tangible) April 14 2021
(in response to a question that arose at church)**

The Cambridge dictionary defines Tangible as: (real and not imaginary; able to be shown, & touched & experienced).

Therefore, I would say that in 2014 when I was in the hospital, I could FEEL & SENSE the difference in the amount of ambient LOVE.

As I was being brought out of the coma, becoming aware that my consciousness was now in a hospital room, there was a doctor in front of me, talking to me and asking me questions. However, my question was, what was I doing here? What am I doing back here on this planet? I want to go back **THERE**, back to where my consciousness was before. **THERE**, it was more **peaceful**, **THERE**, it was more comfortable, it was warm and I don't mean temperature warm, it was inviting, colorful, calm, boundless and I felt free **THERE**, it was more tranquil **THERE**.

In sharp contrast, my consciousness in the hospital room could sense that it was cold, it had stark lighting, it was noisy, hectic, uncomfortable, there was pain, pharmaceutically induced confusion, I had hoses, tubes, wires going everywhere and it was extremely unpleasant. My wrists were bound to the bed rails. I definitely didn't feel free and it was hard to open my eyes, but I knew it wasn't very colorful there. Definitely not **peaceful**.

Years later, because of a conversation I had with a friend I decided to watch a handful of videos of other people that had died for a period of time and then came back to consciousness. In so many cases their experiences tend to not match one another and they don't necessarily match my experiences.

During another conversation I was moved to revisit some of my experiences. I came to realize there was one huge difference in comparing the two locations of my consciousness. I have neglected to mention this to people in the past, whether sharing in my short story, or in person.

I could have shared that there was a measurable difference in the amount of **Tangible-LOVE**. When I was **T-H-E-R-E**, you know the good place, the love place, I could feel that I was surrounded by it and I was engulfed by it, it was natural but nonetheless it was apparent. Now no matter where I go I understand that God's love is with me, the Holy Spirit never leaves me and I share things with Jesus all day long. And with this 24/7 reality, even though I accept this to be true, I have to share that the Love **THERE** was different.

Talking today with another very close friend of mine, he reminded me of an interesting reflection. We discussed that if I was dead for over 34 minutes, then I would've been absent from the body and so he said we must consider that I would've been present with the Lord 2 Cor 5:8 and thus enabling me to be in that unique experience.

This brought up another extremely interesting reflection, but also a very sad and painful thing to think about. I shared with my friend that I had overheard some people talking about the terrible pain and torture that Jesus experienced with the beating, and whipping, and the scourging, and the metal stakes piercing his body and all the physicality of that terrible day that proceeded the crucifixion.

But it wasn't until just then during our conversation that I realized the physicality of the crucifixion may have paled in comparison to the pain, anguish, emptiness and the noticeable absence of that very TANGIBLE-LOVE.

He who knew no sin, had all of sin throughout history thrust on Him all at once. It was necessary, for Him to be separated from the Father, in order for Jesus to take on the sins of all mankind, for complete forgiveness to be paid in full.

I think that ONENESS of the Trinity was separated when Jesus was disconnected from the Fathers all encompassing, all engulfing, all sustaining Spirit, the normally ever present Love and special relationship they had. Jesus may have felt, and I may have felt a little similar, when he responded in that situation by saying "*My God, My God, why have you **abandoned** me*"? **NLT Matt 27:46**.

I believe the absence of God's love isn't just neutral or nothing, but it's absence is reflected by sadness & pain.

I believe **Love is Tangible**, I think it can probably be measured like a barometer measures atmospheric pressure. It's not visible when the pressure changes as it's getting ready to rain, but you certainly can sense it and perceive it. I also believe that when we're around certain people we can sense love emanating from them, (perhaps it's like they are surrounded by a different or warmer atmosphere).

My prayer is that I too can be used to sacrifice & serve others to the point of Love being naturally emanated. And that others can sense it and perceive it and that it may be for the benefit of others and for the betterment of the ONENESS of the Kingdom.

DO PRAYERS WORK?

The Power of Prayer (one small example 2022)

A friend once asked me:

STEVE HAVE YOU EVER WITNESSED BIG PRAYERS BEING ANSWERED?

It was like a **WILDFIRE!**, Said my daughter, after I recently asked her to remind me about the praying that went on the night that I died and the weeks that followed. According to her, apparently I had been a recipient of GINORMOUS size prayers and didn't hear much about it until years later and still just now hearing even more about it.

I wasn't exactly ALL there at the time, but I was told that the first prayer was after my then wife Christina had called 9-1-1, she then called upon God and prayed that whether I went to heaven or remained here, that I would be in peace and not in pain.

She then called our Pastor and his wife who met with her outside the house and they began praying. My daughter Courtney was called and began praying. Her husband Keenan detoured from going to his job at the hospital in Santa Maria to the kitchen where he prayed over my dead body on the floor.

A little later, Pastor Duane came into the kitchen and prayed over my body that for over 34 minutes had no pulse and no heartbeat. **Do Prayers Work?** A minute later, Daune was heading back outside to be with the wives when a paramedic ran by him and said that they finally had a faint pulse and they were taking me to the hospital in Santa Maria.

HOW DEAD WAS I?

Years later, at one of my class reunions, I bumped into Johnny, one of my good friends growing up and was also one of the groomsmen at my wedding. I told him that I had heard that he dropped by to visit me when I was in the hospital and I thanked him for that. He asked me what the heck was I talking about, and I told him that I don't remember, but that I was told he dropped by. He reminded me that his plans for after high school were to become a respiratory therapist. I told him, oh ya, I remember that.

Johnny shared with me that immediately upon my arrival at the hospital, the night that I died, that it was his team taking over and keeping me alive during my 9 days in the coma. They were doing all the breathing for me and trying to quickly begin the process of healing my very badly damaged lungs from the aspirated stomach acids and solids that went into them.

His team also had to increase the oxygen from the lungs into the blood for proper brain function. Johnny said because of the extreme lack of oxygen during my time on the kitchen floor, the stop and go ambulance ride and the time in surgery to repair my blocked artery, most of the doctors thought I was surely brain dead.

My son-in-law Keenan was following the ambulance from my house to the hospital where he worked and said that they must have had to revive me many times because behind the ambulance he could watch them pulling over and working on me, he said it was as if they didn't know whether to continue the stopping and going the rest of the way to Santa Maria or just take me back to Lompoc and the morgue.

When I asked Johnny about this, he said, and I quote "Steve" "you were dead-dead...dead-dead-dead... DEAD!" You were dead on your kitchen floor, in the ambulance you were dead again, you coded and flatlined at least five or six times on the way to the hospital. And more after you arrived there. Johnny said that after my stay in the hospital he reviewed my medical records. And he told me, I can't believe you are standing in front of me having this conversation. After all that you have been through there's no explanation to explain how you survived.

Courtney said, when my family got to the hospital, I had already been taken back for immediate surgery. My family gathered in a private waiting room and did all that they could! They prayed and prayed and prayed some more. They got on different social media platforms and reached out to family, friends, Lompoc and Santa Maria churches, churches and prayer teams from many other States and other Countries as well. The rapid response was amazing, the family started the praying for our needs and the prayer teams spread the word and as my daughter Courtney said it took off and spread like a **WildFire**.

At the class reunion Johnny told me that as I slowly started to stabilize the doctors would reduce the amount of Propofol that was keeping me in the drug induced coma and they would then try to test for brain function. The more days that went by without obvious brain activity increased the likelihood that I was brain dead. However, the more days that went by also increased the number of people praying for me.

With tubes and hoses down my throat and up my nose and wires going everywhere, my first conscious memory of the hospital was a doctor asking me if I knew where I was.

I thought I verbally replied to him when I said, "What am I doing here?" and although he couldn't hear me, he was explaining that I had had a heart attack and was in the hospital. I however, was having a different conversation, I wasn't asking why was I here in this hospital, I was asking why was I here on this planet and that I would prefer to go back to where I just came from, not sure where that was, but liked it there a lot more than here.

The Bible says: **2 Corinthians 5:8** *nit Yes, we are fully confident and we would rather be away from these earthly bodies, for then we would be at home with the Lord.*

Apparently, my daughter Courtney was there when I first started showing signs of being able to understand the doctors and respond to their requests for body movement. I guess I was still grumpy at being here instead of there because according to my daughter, I wasn't being very cooperative. I could sense the muscle atrophy and when no one else was around, I started working on improving my so far, useless and uncooperative muscles.

I guess the doctors were getting a little frustrated with me when I wouldn't move my feet after being asked to and so a visiting friend of mine, Rona yelled at me and said, "Steve just go ahead and move your foot for them!" Rona and Courtney said, I responded by lifting my leg straight up towards the ceiling and then I slammed it back down on the bed, hard. I'm not sure if that is a sign of a properly operating brain or not, but they thought so and Courtney said she knew her father was back.

As the muscle atrophy got a little bit better I thought I could communicate with a pencil and paper and made gestures for Courtney to bring those items to me, as I still had hoses and tubes down my throat. I don't remember the specifics of how it went down but apparently, I had previously tried to pull those very vital hoses and tubes away from my face which led to hospital security putting restraints on my wrists and at times posting someone at my door.

Courtney seems to love to tell the story of how I communicated to her that I wanted her to take the restraints off and of course she said she couldn't and she got very emotional and sad about that. Me being a supposedly kind, loving, compassionate and very appreciative father, communicated to her and gestured to her my displeasure with a well known finger gesture which made her cry. So much for being very appreciative to one so full of faith in her father, and in her Heavenly Father.

I think that type of appreciation can elude the best of us. When it comes to prayer, oftentimes the recipients don't know of and/or don't appreciate those that have chosen to exercise their faith in God through prayer. Through prayer and petition God can provide help with solutions to problems and meet the needs that we all have at some points in our lives.

In my situation, as the years go by I am learning more and more about the prayers that went on behind the scenes that have so profoundly affected my life and in some ways may be affecting others. My desire is that the Holy Spirit chooses to bless others through me.

It may have only taken Christina's singular first prayer for me to have no recollection of any pain, other than the uncomfortableness of the restraints.

It may have only taken Pastor Duane's singular prayer over my dead and lifeless body lying on the floor, for me to get a faint heartbeat again after normal resuscitation should have been stopped.

For Courtney, it may have started at first, as a singular prayer, but that spark, that lighting of a match, that initial flame, like she says, "It spread like a **WILDFIRE!**"

Dad, she said, "You have no idea, we estimate that there were thousands and thousands and thousands praying for you". I say, "**I don't know about you, but that sounds like big prayin to me**".

STEVE KUHN, henceforth from this day forward, gives credit to all of them, each and every one of them and their prayerful faith, I give them credit for any good that comes from my new life, now, and also in the future.

Dear family, friends, prayer teams, and churches near and far.
Thank you all for the prayers:

**Have I ever witnessed big prayers being answered?
I'd have to say I'm living one!**

God hears all prayers, there is nothing too small to share with God.
As the Bible says in **1 Thessalonians 5:17** pray continually.

You might not think of yourself as being powerful. You may think that you have to be eloquent, or give fancy prayers for them to be heard. You might not think prayers work or are important, but I have determined from studying the Bible and from personal experiences that prayers **unlock** the power of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the most powerful thing in all the universe and prayers and petitions are the keys to unlocking it.

You, yes you don't hesitate, don't second guess yourself, when in doubt simply pray, simply unlock the **POWER OF PRAYER** and unlock the power of the Holy Spirit and see what it chooses to do, once unlocked see how it will choose to work through you. **PRAYERS DO WORK!**

Oh and by the way, if any one you know has a doubt as to whether there is a heaven or not, feel free to send them my way. My favorite parts were when the multitudes were singing, the vividness of the colors and the very perceivable atmosphere of LOVE.

HOW IMPORTANT IS DEVELOPING A HEART OF FORGIVENESS?

Is the Forgiveness of Trespasses, Transgressions, Offenses, Debts, & Sins important to God?
Is it a **REQUIREMENT** for one's own offenses & sins to be **forgiven** in order for entry into **heaven**?

Ever since the beginning of creation Free-Will has been of the utmost importance to God. Unfortunately, for us that led to our ancestors (Adam & Eve) committing sin and us inheriting that sin nature and their consequences. Since then the Bible shows that God has a plan for that curse and how to get us out of that mess. **Forgiveness** of sins and entry into heaven sounds hard but may be easier than we think.

1 Accept that Jesus is our God and our Savior. And we are Followers of His way of exemplifying how to live life on this planet. **2 We Repent** (turn away from Bad and towards **GOoD**) **3 We believe** that He gave up His life for ours, for **Forgiveness of our Sins** (bad choices). **4 We must continually demonstrate a Heart of Forgiveness** towards all others the best we know how.

When someone enters our land and/or our lives and hurts us, or steals, or deceives, or reneges on debts we want it to never happen again and for them to be held accountable for their actions. The word "**forgive**" means to wipe the slate clean, to pardon, to cancel a debt. When we **forgive** it has less to do with them and more to do with us, forgiveness can't be earned, it's a free gift, it can be accepted or not accepted.

Greater Good Magazine(Science based insights): Describes it this way: Psychologists generally define **forgiveness** as a conscious, deliberate decision to release feelings of resentment or vengeance toward a person or group who has harmed (or offended) you, regardless of whether they actually deserve your forgiveness. (I added the offended part).

Jesus seemed to think it was important and He exemplifies it for us in the **Lord's Prayer**:

Matt.6:9-15 "This, then, is how you should pray: " 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And **forgive** us our **debts**, as we also have **forgiven** our **debtors**. And lead us not into temptation, "but deliver us from the evil one. ^b 'For if you **forgive** other people when they **sin** against you, your heavenly Father will also **forgive** you. But if you **do not forgive** others their **sins**, your Father **will not forgive** your **sins**."

The **REQUIREMENT** for you to receive **FORGIVENESS** is to **FORGIVE** others. *Luke 11:4* *gnt forgive us our sins, for we forgive everyone who does us wrong.*

What if you do not **FORGIVE** others; 28 of 28 Bible **versions** agree: will you be **FORGIVEN**? NIV will not, NLT will not, ESV either will, BSB neither will, BLB neither will, NASB will not, NKJV neither will, KJB neither will, CSB will not, CEV will not, etc...

Luke 6:37 *gnt "Do not judge others, and God will not judge you; do not condemn others, and God will not condemn you; **forgive others, and God will forgive you.***

(Sin cannot enter into heaven, it must be given up & forgiven away, it cannot be retained).

I believe it's **critical** for us to forgive all others the best we know how in order to develop a **Heart of Forgiveness** and receive **assurance** from Jesus, just like the thief on the cross did.

Luke 23:43 *And Jesus replied, "I **assure** you, today you will be with me in paradise."* Did the thief on the cross have a **Heart of Forgiveness**, only Jesus knows for sure, but I'd rather not chance it.

Jesus went on to say; in **The Parable of the Unmerciful Servant**; Matthew 18:32-35

*"Then summoning him, his lord said to him, 'You wicked slave, I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not also have had mercy on your fellow slave, in the same way that I had mercy on you?'" And his lord, moved with anger, handed him over to the tortures until he should repay all that was owed him. "My heavenly Father will also do the same to you, if each of you does not forgive his brother from your heart." (He should of had a **Heart of Forgiveness**)*

***Luke 17: 3,4** Take heed to yourselves: If thy brother **trespass** against thee, rebuke him; and if he **repent, forgive** him. And if he **trespass** against thee seven times in a day, and seven times in a day turn again to thee, saying, I **repent**; thou shalt **forgive** him*

***Matthew 18:15** Moreover if thy brother shall **trespass** against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he hears you, you have gained your brother. There's no question about it, in giving us forgiveness of sins God gave us something we didn't deserve and that we couldn't earn. Jesus painfully gave up His life for Forgiveness and God his father, painstakingly, gave His son for our Forgiveness, **both** exemplified **Hearts of Forgiveness**.*

Are we required to be legalistic and are we hellbound if we forget to **forgive** a person, one time, whether it's out loud or in person, probably not necessarily. But what would the world be like if the Believers of Christ, exemplified **Hearts of Forgiveness**. To be safe, what about, **FORGIVENESS IN ADVANCE**, in advance of, trespasses, transgressions, **offenses**, debts, sins and being deceived. I'm not saying to the point of being taken advantage of, but to the point of us being more understanding and compassionate.

We could start by just deciding that our first inclination, our first perception of others, is that what they do and say may not purposefully be intended to **offend** us. Let's give people some room. Financially people probably don't owe you a lot of money, but could you overlook them owing you an apology? Or them owing you a debt of gratitude?

Is **forgiveness** your first thought when they cut in line at Starbucks or pull in front of you while you're driving? Maybe their life has them so frustrated and angry and you just happen to be the next person that comes along, is your first thought, "I will forgive them and not be offended no matter what", and realize they may need prayed for, and "I'm the perfect person to intercede on their behalf".

So I have been experimenting with the "**not being offended in-advance**", and it's not perfect, I'm definitely not perfect at it, let's just say it's a work in progress. But, I do have to say I have had some amazing experiences. It's extremely freeing. An interesting side effect is that you notice and become aware how quickly others want to mis-interpret what you say or do as offensive or offending. What a great opportunity, being falsely accused of something you didn't do, and paying for it with an apology. Sounds like something someone I very much admire would do. **WWJD?**

Going through your day giving people room, knowing it's tough out there, knowing the enemy is working double time, instead of judging their offenses, we could practice Forgiving in advance and maybe fulfilling a **REQUIREMENT**, we could also prayerfully intercede for them using our **Hearts Of Forgiveness**, what a blessing. **Thanks Abba Father!**

Scriptures about Trespasses, Forgiveness and Sins
It seems that Developing a Heart of Forgiveness is very important to God

Scriptures about Trespasses and Forgiveness.

Leviticus 5:15,5:16,5:6,5:7,5:15,5:18,5:19,6:2,6:5,6:6,6:17,7:1,7:2,7:5,7:7,7:37,14:12,14:13,14:14,14:17,14:21,14:24,14:25,14:28,19:21,19:22,22:16,26:40

More Scriptures about Trespasses and Forgiveness.

Numbers 5:6,7,5:8,5:12,5:27,6:12,18:9,31:16 Joshua 7:1,22:16,22:20,22:31 Samuel 1 6:3,6:4,6:17,25:28, Kings-1 8:31, Kings-2 22:16, Chronicles-1 21:3 Chronicles-2 19:10,24:18,28:13,28:22,33:19 Ezra 9:2,9:6,9:7,9:13,10:10,10:19, Ezekiel 15:8,17:20,18:24,20:27,40:39,42:13,44:29,46:20, Daniel 9:7

SIN and FORGIVENESS: too many, heres a sampling of just a hundred provided by openbible website

1John 1:9,Colossians 3:13,Mark 11:23,Acts 2:38,Ephesians 1:7,Luke 6:37 Ephesians 4:32,Acts 3:19, Matthew 18:21-22, Matthew 6:14-15, Matthew 6:12 Isaiah 1:18 ,Isaiah 43:25, Luke 23:34 ,Acts 10:43 Proverbs 28:13 Isaiah 55:7 Psalm 32:5,2 Chronicles 7:14 ,Matthew 26:28,Hebrews 10:17, Daniel 9:9,Luke 17:3-4,Matthew 6:14,Romans 3:23,Hebrews 8:12, Proverbs 17:9,Ephesians 4:31-32,2 Corinthians 5:17,Psalm 103:12 Jeremiah 31:34 Psalm 86:51 John 2:1 Colossians 1:13-14 , Romans 6:23 Micah 7:18-19 Psalm 130:4 James 5:16 ,John 3:16 Luke 17:3,1 John 2:2 Matthew 5:23-24 Acts 13:38 ,Acts 22:16 ,Matthew 6:15 ,Romans 8:1 Ephesians 2:8 Proverbs 10:12 , Luke 24:47 ,Colossians 1:14 Joel 2:13 Acts 17:30 ,Micah 7:18 Romans 10:9 ,Acts 13:38-39 Ephesians 2:8-9 ,1 John 2:12,James 5:14-15, Matthew 6:12-15, Isaiah 43:25-26 ,Ephesians 1:7-8 Romans 10:13, Matthew 6:9-15 ,1 Peter 4:8,Jeremiah 3:12,2 Chronicles 30:9,Luke 13:3, Psalm 79:9,Matthew 5:7,1 John 1:8-10,Luke 7:47-48 Romans 3:23-26, Psalm 103:10-12 , Nehemiah 9:31 ,1 Corinthians 10:13,Acts 2:1-47, Colossians 2:1-23 Matthew 6:9-13 , Mark 1:4 ,1 Corinthians 6:9-11, Hebrews 4:16 ,John 8:7 Acts 26:18 ,1 Peter 3:9,Luke 17:4, Romans 5:1, Colossians 1:1-29 ,Romans 4:7-8 Psalm 32:1,John 3:16-17,Romans 12:19 Psalm 25:7,1 John 1:7,Revelation 2:10Luke 23:33-34,Luke 3:3,Hebrews 10:26-27,Revelation 1:1-20,Matthew 5:44, Revelation 1:1

I PROMISE

From Steve to Steve

The bad things in my past, the bad things I've gone through and the bad things I've done have become the foundational causation for the future good.

Who I am today is the closest resemblance of whom I'm going to be tomorrow, and who I am today is the furthest from whom I used to be.

I like who I'm about to become, and I'm becoming starting today.

Question?

Knowing who I truly am. What would be the most appropriate act of validation that would show that even though I know who I truly am, knowing all about me, knowing all things good and bad, what would show that I'm really willing to forgive, trust, like and even love myself.

Answer.

Steve... I know you and I know you don't believe that you **deserve** this, but I'm really going to forgive, forget and let those things go, that you have so tightly held on to all of your life. You know that I know that you think they are a part of your identity, but that's just a chosen misperception. You're lying to yourself because we both know that who you really are, is today's thoughts, today's actions, and **promises** kept tomorrow.

Today, I **PROMISE** to forget your past as a validation that I truly know you, forgive you, trust you and like you and Steve now having said all this, I now know that you know that this proves that I do truly Love you. We share in knowing how important this is, in all that you do and just as important when you interact with others. Steve, shouldn't you be able to forgive yourself?

Truth.

It's often much easier for us to forgive others than it is to **forgive ourselves**. God forgives you, God forgets your iniquities and God loves you, no matter what. Jesus commands us, in Matt 22:39, "Love your neighbor as yourself". Shouldn't I follow God's example? Starting today, I will **forgive myself** in advance just as I would forgive others and choose to overlook my iniquities just as I would others.

Prayer.

Lord Jesus: Please help me to keep this **PROMISE**, and protect me from those who would suppress me by guilt, doubt, fear or lack of trust. Amen!

HOW DID I GET THERE ?

If the question is **Dead 34 Minutes Where Was I?**

And the best answer seems to be Heaven and if I went to heaven, then **how did I get there?**

The next question is what is the criteria? Was there a secret password, a special handshake, can you bribe the doorman, say enough Hail Mary's, help little old lady's across the street, just be a good person, attend church enough days to qualify, check the ledger for more good marks than bad marks. I have asked dozens and dozens of people this question and have gotten crazier answers than these.

Searching the Internet, top one's listed didn't have better or very complete answers for instance:

Wikipedia #1: Get to Heaven is the third studio album by British band Everything Everything. Recorded primarily in Angelic Studios

Google search #1: openthebible; The 7 steps to get to heaven = Faith in God, Goodness, Knowledge, Self-control, Perseverance, Godliness, Mutual affection (brotherly kindness), LOVE

Google search #2: pursuible; Trust in Jesus Christ and follow Him. Believe in the Lord Jesus.

Have you ever asked somebody the question, **How do I get to Heaven**, shouldn't we all be ready with an answer if someone asks us? Did your answers make sense? How dangerous is it to give a wrong answer, or not have an answer at all? Is someone's eternal life weighing in the balance?

Was Steve in heaven? As far as I know, **YES** because try as I might I have come up with no other plausible explanation for my experiences. **How did Steve qualify? How did he get in?**

I don't know about Enoch and Elijah who may have gone to heaven without dying, but the descriptions of Luke 23:39 "The **Thief on the Cross**" shows me that the thief on the wrong side of Jesus was indeed wrong, this story gives me an example of what **does and doesn't** qualify to enter into heaven.

Luke 23:39-42 One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: "Aren't you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" (both recognized Jesus as Messiah, but this one didn't show a **heart of forgiveness**)

But the other rebuked him. "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence? We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom. Jesus answered him, "**Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.**"

The **Thief** on the right side, the correct side of Jesus, feared and respected God, he also recognized himself as doing wrong, being guilty and receiving what he deserved, while also recognizing Jesus to have done nothing wrong and being innocent. He affirmed that he believed Jesus was Lord and King and was going to be entering into His kingdom. He didn't seem to think Jesus was going to remain dead. Did the **thief** have a **heart of forgiveness**? Only Jesus knows for sure, but he certainly displayed **faith, compassion, care** in his belief.

Steve's best understanding and belief in proper criteria for consideration into heaven:

1 Accept that Jesus is our God and our Savior. And we are Followers of His way of exemplifying how to live life on this planet. **2 We Repent** (turn away from Bad and towards **GOoD**) **3 We believe** that He gave up His life for ours, for **Forgiveness of our Sins** (bad choices). **4 We must continually demonstrate a Heart of Forgiveness** towards all others the best we know how.

Does Steve have a **heart of forgiveness**, only Jesus knows for sure. I still think that forgiving offenses in advance is important. Maybe I'm just lazy but it just seems easier to set myself up to automatically respond in a way that keeps me aligned more with the Holy Spirit. Sometimes while I am unaware, He will start having me look at people the way He looks at them.

Through my eyes I find myself seeing through His. He looks at them as fun loving innocent children just trying to make their way through this silly messed up world. When this happens my chest feels warmer, I get a little emotional and I feel a smile come to my face. I feel a change and Now they can do less wrong in my eyes, Now I am giving them room, Now I think of helping them with their struggles instead of thinking of them as adding to my struggles, Now I can love them as He does and Now I am more open to Him guiding me to perhaps being a positive in their life instead of looking at them as a negative in mine.

I came across some of these scriptures the last time I read the Bible. I have put them in chronological order. Individually they are scriptures talking about getting into Heaven, eternal life, getting saved, being justified, salvation, everlasting life, entering the Kingdom etc. I refer to these as Bible quips. They are more like slivers or partial reflections of the bigger picture.

Matthew 10:22 the one who **stands firm** to the end will be **saved**.

Matthew 10:42 Jesus speaking of soul and Father in Heaven says **42 And if you give even a cup of cold water** to one of the least of my followers, you will surely be **rewarded.**"

Matt 12:37 For by thy **words** thou shalt be **justified** **Matt 18:3** unless you change and become **like little children**, you will never enter the **kingdom of heaven**.

Mark 13:13 endures to the end will be **saved**. **Mark 16:16** Who **believes** and is **baptized** will be **saved**

Luke 12:8 whoever publicly **acknowledges me** before others, the Son of Man will also **acknowledge before the angels of God**.

Luke 18:29-30 "Truly I tell you," Jesus said to them, "no one who has **left home** or **wife** or brothers or sisters or parents or children for the **sake of the kingdom of God** will fail to **receive** many times as much in this age, and in the age to come **eternal life**."

Luke 19:8-10 But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I **give half of my possessions** to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, **I will pay back four times the amount.**" Jesus said to him, "Today **salvation has come** to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

John 3:15 that everyone who **believes** may have **eternal life** in him.

John 3:16 whoever **believes in him** shall not perish but have **eternal life**.

John 3:36 Whoever **believes in the Son** has **eternal life**

John 6:27 Do not **work** for food that spoils, but **for food that endures to eternal life**,

John 6:40 For my Father's will is that everyone who **looks to the Son** and **believes in him** shall have **eternal life**, and I will raise them up at the last day."

John 6:47 He that **believeth on me** hath **everlasting life**.

John 6:51 Whoever **eats this bread** will **live forever**.

John 6:53 unless you **eat the flesh** of the Son of Man and **drink his blood**, you cannot have **eternal life** within you.

John 6:54,55,56,57,58 **flesh/blood = eternal life**

John 8:51 Very truly I tell you, whoever **obeys my word** will **never see death**."

John 10:9 I am the **gate** whoever **enters through me** will be **saved**.

John 10:27-28 My sheep **listen to my voice**; I know them, and they follow me. I give them **eternal life**,

John 11:25-26 "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who **believes in me** will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by **believing in me** **will never die**.

John 12:25 Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while **anyone who hates their life** in this world will keep it for **eternal life**.

John 12:26 Whoever **serves me** must follow me; and **where I am (heaven)**, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me.

John 14:4 see above.**HOW DID I GET THERE ?**

Acts 13:39 Through him everyone who **believes** is set free from every sin, a **justification** you were not able to obtain under the law of Moses.

Acts 13:48 When the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and **honored the word** of the Lord; and all who were **appointed for eternal life** believed.

Acts 14:22 "We must go through many **hardships** to enter the **kingdom of God**,"

Acts 15:11 it is through the **grace** of our Lord Jesus that we are **saved**

Acts 16:17 servants of the **Most High God**, who are **telling you** the way to **be saved**.

Acts 16:31 "**Believe in the Lord Jesus**, and you will be **saved**"

Acts 22:16 **Get up**, be **baptized** and **wash your sins** away, **calling on his name**.

Romans 2:7 To those who by **persistence in doing good seek glory, honor and immortality**, he will give **eternal life**.

Romans 6:22 been **set free from sin** and have **become slaves of God**, the benefit you reap leads to **holiness**, and the result is **eternal life**.

Romans 10:9 **declare with your mouth**, "**Jesus is Lord**," and **believe in your heart** that **God raised him from the dead**, you will be **saved**

Romans 10:10 **heart** you **believe** are **justified**, it is your **mouth** you **profess** your **faith** and are **saved**.

Romans 10:13 Everyone who **calls on the name of the Lord** will be **saved**.

1 Corinthians 15:1 the **gospel** I preached to you, which you **received** and on which you have **taken your stand**. **2** By this **gospel** you are **saved**

2 Corinthians 7:10 **Godly sorrow** brings **repentance** that leads to **salvation**

Galatians 6:8 **sows** to please the **Spirit**, from the **Spirit** will **reap eternal life**

Ephesians 2:8,9 For it is by **grace** you have been **saved, through faith**—and this is not from yourselves, it is the **gift of God**— **not by works**, so that **no one can boast**.

Colossians 1:9-14 be **filled with knowledge of his will**, have **spiritual wisdom** and **understanding that the Spirit gives**, so that you may **live a life worthy** of the Lord and **please him** in every way: **bearing**

fruit in every **good work, growing in the knowledge of God**, being **strengthened** with all **power** according to his **glorious might** so that you may have great **endurance and patience**, and **giving joyful thanks** to the **Father**, who has **qualified you** ^f **to share in the inheritance** of his holy people in the **kingdom of light**. For he has **rescued us from the dominion of darkness** and brought us **into the kingdom** of the Son he loves, in whom we have **redemption, the forgiveness of sins**.

Hebrews 10:39 But we do not belong to those who **shrink back and are destroyed**, but to those who have **faith** and are **saved**.

1 Peter 3:21 this water symbolizes **baptism** that now **saves** you also—not removal of dirt from the body but the **pledge of a clear conscience toward God**. It **saves** you by resurrection of Jesus Christ,

1 Peter 4:18 If **it is hard** for the **righteous** to be **saved**, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?

2 Peter 1:5-9(see above)

2 Peter 1:10,11 **confirm your calling and election**. For if you do these things, you will **never stumble**, and you will receive a rich welcome into the **eternal kingdom**

1 John 5:7-12 For there are **three that testify: the Spirit, the water and the blood**; and the three are in agreement. **We accept human testimony, but God's testimony is greater** because it is the testimony of God, which he has given about his Son. **Whoever believes in the Son of God accepts this testimony**.

Whoever does not believe God has made him out to be a liar, because they have not believed the testimony God has given about his Son. And **this is the testimony**: God has given us **eternal life**, and **this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life**; who does not have Son of God does not have life.

Jude 1:20 But you, dear friends, by building yourselves up in your most **holy faith** and **praying in Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in God's love wait for mercy** Lord Jesus bring you to **eternal life**.

Revelation 2:7 Whoever has **ears**, let them **hear what the Spirit says** to the churches. To the one **who is victorious**, I will give the right to **eat from the tree of life**, is in the **paradise of God**.

Revelation 2:10 Be **faithful**, even **to the point of death**, will **give you life** as your **victor's crown**.

Revelation 2:11 Whoever has **ears**, let them **hear what the Spirit says** to the churches. The one **who is victorious will not be hurt** at all by the **second death**.

Revelation 2:17 To the one **who is victorious**, I will give some of the **hidden manna**. I will also give that person a **white stone with a new name written on it**, known only who receives it.

Revelation 2:26 who is **overcomes** does **my will** to the end, I will give authority over the nations

Revelations 3:4 Yet you have a few people in Sardis who have **not soiled their clothes**. They will **walk with me, dressed in white**, for they are **worthy**. The one who is **victorious** will, like them, be **dressed in white**. I will **never blot out the name** of that person from the **book of life**

Revelations 3:11 I am coming soon. **Hold on to what you have**, so **no one will take your crown**.

Revelations 3:12 The **one who overcomes** I will make a **pillar in the temple of my God**. Revelations 3:19-22 Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So **be earnest and repent**. Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and **opens the door, I will come in** and eat with that person, and **they with me**. To the one who is victorious, I will give the right to **sit with me on my throne**, just as I was victorious and sat down with my Father on his throne. **Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches**.

Is Seeing Believing

I saw my left hand holding the paper and in my right hand was the pencil! I watched as my fingers pressed down on the keys of the laptop, and I noticed the reflection in the screen was MINE.

I don't know sentence structure, grammar or punctuation, but I do recognize the story being told. I have watched the little pieces of the story being put together over the last eight years and my hands are the ones pushing down on the stapler, stapling them together.

I recognize that the things that occurred in the story did happen to me. However, how this story is put together and written, well it's better than I could have done, I've reread it a few times and thought to myself, dang this story isn't too bad, in fact it's kinda good. My only logical conclusion is, (It's Not My Fault,) someone, or something other than me musta done it.

Is Seeing Believing? You certainly can see Steve standing in front of you. But that doesn't mean we have to accept and believe that he went THERE, you know, the happy place, the LOVE place, **Heaven**. And what if I choose to believe that Steve didn't really go THERE, cuz if I consider that he did, I might have to consider, just maybe, that there might be something to this God and Heaven stuff.

Is Seeing Believing?

Please heed my warning, if you're waiting to **see** God, before you will **believe** in Him, well that's probably not gonna work out too well for you. You might wanna consider looking into the existence of God and the validity of the Bible at your earliest convenience, or even when it's not convenient.

Whether or not there's enough evidence for **you** to believe that I died, went to heaven, and was then sent back, well I'm with ya, it sounds pretty **hokey** to me too. I wouldn't want you to base your belief on that anyway. I believe God has got something else, something unique for each and everyone one of us that's gonna get us curious enough to seek out the **truth**. My hope is that you stay open minded.

I was considered very healthy...**right before I died**, so that doesn't necessarily make a difference, because no one knows when they are going to take their last breath or step off of a curb and get run over by a submarine.

Even with **Seeing**, Hearing, Feeling and Experiencing Heaven It's still hard to believe. Until that submarine with my name on it comes along again, I want to remain helping others with their **Believing** so that they'll end up someday seeing **HEAVEN**.

THE INESCAPABLE TRUTH I WAS DEAD FOR 34 mins WHERE WAS I? HOW DID I GET THERE?

1 Accept that Jesus is our God and our Savior. And we are Followers of His way of exemplifying how to live life on this planet. **2 We Repent** (turn away from Bad and towards **GOoD**) **3 We believe** that He gave up His life for ours, for **Forgiveness of our Sins** (bad choices). **4 We must continually demonstrate a Heart of Forgiveness** towards all others the best we know how.