SPRITUAL NEEDS AND THE PHYSICIAN'S RESPONSE

There are several areas of the modern hospital that I would like to visit in order to determine the spiritual pulse of the institution. The great American hospital has become one of the complexes of American Society which every community takes pride in the knowledge of its existence. Most non-medical people are unaware of the fact that the spiritual aspect of patient care and consequently the humane quality of patient care is an extreme variable and may be virtually non-existent. Similar to the evaluation of a sick pa-

ient (or a healthy one) there must be ways of determining the health or infirmity of the hospital institution. Hospitals are accredited as are medical schools. However, are these methods of accreditation totally pragmatic, or are these standards utilized in order to determine not only the scientific aspects of patient care but also the spiritual and humane characteristics of total care for the sick and the dying?

First of all I would like to visit the operating rooms and listen to the conversations in the doctors' and nurses' lounges—to hear the statements, the quality of the matters discussed, the content, the depth and the degree of concern regarding the procedures which are soon to be done. I'd like to hear what is said during the first patient contact—hopefully when the patient is awake what words of encouragement, of explanation, of assurance are said. I'd like to hear what the anesthesiologist says to the patient and the OR crew. I'd like to hear what is said during the scrubbing procedure, during gowning and draping—and prior to the beginning of the procedure. I'd like to hear if prayer is spoken, what words of instruction to interns and residents, student nurses, OR's, PA's—. I'd like to hear the conversation during the operation—if there is reverence, and concern that the patient may hear what is being said (spiritually or subconsciously). I'd like to see if there is reverence for tissue—reverence for God—reverence for the patient.

Then, I'd like to see what transpires when the operating surgeon leaves, how the assistants carry forth. I'd like to see what happens enroute to the recovery room and what care is given—what is said within the hearing of the patient regaining consciousness. How is this aspect of his being treated? What is he told about the endotracheal tube, his nausea, his pain, his vertigo, his Levine tube, his Foley catheter? One patient, awakening in a recovery room and seeing all the patients in one large room lying on stretchers, thought that he was in the morgue. No one told him about the recovery room.

I'd like to visit the rooms of the comatose patients. How are they treated—especially those who are considered terminal? Are the comatose considered capable of hearing? of understanding? Is there music and is it beautiful—classical or rock and roll? Recent studies of the fetus in utero indicate that the fetus enjoys beautiful, classical music but reacts violently to rock music. In a Denver, Colorado experiment, plants subjected to rock music withered and died; whereas those nurtured by beautiful music thrived. Similar experiments where one curses and talks violently to plants causes them to fail to thrive whereas love and prayer result in luxuriant growth.

I'd like to visit the cancer ward—to hear the conversation, to observe patient care, to see if prayer is said, if there is any speaking of Jesus and His father-God, or the conveyance of hope. What is done to provide peace, beauty, understanding? Who takes this responsibility? Do the physicians travel in groups—talking to each other, discussing the chart, virtually ignoring the patient? Is the patient just a teaching case, a cancer of the pancreas, a case of Hodgkin's disease, a terminal leukemia, a brain tumor?

I'd like to see what happens when the patient expires. How is he treated then? Have Christians ever read about the treatment of Tabitha after her death (Acts 9:36-41). Have modern Americans ever considered the treatment of the dead accorded by Orthodox Judaism? Does reverence (if any) cease when the patient dies? What is the demeanor of the autopsy room? Is there reverence there? When I was a surgical resident at University Hospital in Ann Arbor, Michigan, I spent a year in the department of Pathology. During that time I performed 125 necropsies. The majority of those procedures were attended by Medical students, ministers and at times medical staff members. The ministers were
studying pastoral care under an excellent pastor, Reverend Malcomb Ballinger. One day one of the pastoral students asked me, "Doctor, have you found the soul yet?" I replied (not knowing then the difference between soul and spirit), "Sir, if this man's soul were here you'd not find me doing this procedure."

What are the patient's "spiritual needs?" This question has not been considered to any particular degree in recent years! Usually the hospital Chapel, if there is one, is inaccessible to the patient. No services are held for patients there and rarely are patients taken to the Chapel for any purpose. The hospital Chaplain, if there is one, is usually unable to visit all of the patients daily - or even weekly - and when he does he is usually careful to be Unitarian or remotely Christian in his approach. He is not considered to be part of the healing team. He is not asked for his opinion of the patient's status. With 4 to 8 years of training beyond high school he makes no notes on the chart (even though a respiratory therapist with only a brief post-graduate course after high school may be allowed to do so). He is expected to stand aside, even in the midst of Holy Communion when the staff physician come into the patient's room. There is usually no place for him to hang his coat and he is generally ignored by most physicians and many nurses. So, in this day, the patient is truly not considered to have spiritual needs.

In this era of Kubler-Ross, "Death and Dying", spiritual needs may represent the blunt telling of the patient of his impending death so he can get his affairs in order and go through his various phases of dying including (perhaps) rejection, grief, anger, acceptance. Often the truth is told bluntly and coldly with no compassion, no love, no prayer - no Christian hope.

Since most physicians believe in evolution and have given up the idea that man is created in the image of God - he considers his patient only psycho-somatically - much as the average veterinarian does. He does not think of the Godly part of his patient - or himself, and when he does go to Church, he does not understand spirituality, because the Church uses nomenclature he does not understand. The idea of salvation is not seen in terms of the whole man and being born-again is left up in the air so that its obstetrical significance is missed. Many ministers see man only from a psycho-somatic point of view and proclaim intellectualism rather than spirituality implying that man becomes spiritual through education rather than rebirth.

If the patient is spiritual and this is the quality which differentiates him from the lower animals, is it not time to have hospitals most of which were developed by Christians and paid for by them, become spiritual institutions instead of continue to be part of an increasingly atheistic form of patient care which we have developed by inaction rather than by input. Please begin to pray and to act.

William Franklin Reed, M.D.

NEEDED: A LABELER !!

To expedite mailings, Christian Medical Foundation needs a LABELER. The computer now produces labels to adhere on our newsletters - a far more efficient system than the one we previously used. However, these labels are presently applied manually by CMF volunteers. This task requires four volunteers for approximately four days. In contrast, a LABELER will adhere 13,000 labels in 1 and 1/2 hours. This revolutionary little machine costs $5,000.00. Please consider donating towards the purchase of a LABELER.
There is a sense of expectancy here at the Foundation. With our computer, which we acquired last November, our daily operations and mailing system are becoming increasingly efficient.

God has blessed us with a small but mighty staff, "standing together shoulder to shoulder in orderly array and in the firmness and the solid front and steadfastness of our faith in Christ." (Col. 2:5) We are truly experiencing Acts 1:8 that "ye shall receive power (ability, efficiency and might) when the Holy Spirit has come upon you." Most importantly the Reeds are literally swamped with opportunities to speak for the Lord regarding LFSM and to address medically oriented groups. Doctors, many of whom are entering practice, are contacting us daily earnestly seeking how to integrate the Spiritual into their practices and lives.

The only hindrance we have at the present time is a lack of financial resources. Since the beginning of 1984, we have had a deficit of approximately $7,000.00 each month. Our monthly running expenses are $17,000.00 which are really pared down considering that this includes salaries and payroll taxes of $10,735.00 for a staff of ten. (Dr. and Mrs. Reed and our Board of Directors are not salaried. We have no outstanding mortgages, no long term debt.)

Medicine is in a more precarious position than it has ever been in its history. Our ministry, calling Physicians, Nurses and Medical personnel back to God and back to Christ-centered Medicine for the patients' sake is a controversial one. Can we count on YOU to assist us as we advance in 1984 to carry out the mission for which God created us—to teach the highest and best in Medicine with Spiritual Excellence?

We thank each and every one of you who has helped hold up our arms in the battle (as Aaron and Hur held up Moses' arms) with your prayers, volunteered time and talents and your financial giving. If each person who receives our newsletter would donate ten dollars or more as the Holy Spirit leads, our financial need would be met. Will you prayerfully consider this and consider including CMD in your will. May God bless you as you decide what He would have you do in regard to this ministry.

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**TAPE OFFER**

Our featured tape for this newsletter is "The Anatomy of a Crisis", by the Rev. Dr. Franklin Logsdon. He walks us through Psalms 55 and 42 with David and we can feel David's heart-cry to God. Dr. Logsdon is a respected Bible scholar and an anointed teacher. This anointing is especially evident on this tape.

Order tape #5950A, Fl. 3/13/84. For each tape ordered send a check for $4.00 plus $2 for postage and handling.

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**BOOK OFFER**

From our Book Nook, we are offering the newly published LARGE PRINT Amplified Bible in softcover (19.95 plus postage and handling of $3.00) or hardback ($29.95 plus postage and handling of $3.00). This is a beautiful study Bible.

Yes, I would like to help Christian Medical Foundation proclaim the new Spiritual Medicine.

Please find enclosed my donation for:

$10.00  $50.00  $1000.00

$25.00  $100.00  Other

I would like this donation to contribute towards:

Bethesda Project  Labeler

General Expenses

$_________ is enclosed to cover cost of book(s) and the $3 postage and handling.

$_________ is enclosed to cover cost of tape(s) and the $2 postage and handling.

NAME  (please print)

ADDRESS

CITY    STATE    ZIP
THE REEDS’ ITINERARY FOR MAY AND JUNE

MAY 11 - 13  ATLANTA, GEORGIA

Southeast Regional Conference "THE DOCTOR AND CHANGES IN HIS PROFESSION"
A weekend of Christian fellowship and education for doctors and spouses.
PLACE: Atlanta Downtown Marriott Hotel
CONTACT: Christian Medical Foundation Tampa (813) 932-3688

MAY 18 - 20  CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA

Retreat for doctors and their spouses "WHAT IS SPIRITUALITY?—IS IT NEEDED IN MODERN MEDICINE?"
PLACE: Celo Inn near Burnsville
CONTACT: Thomas Armstrong, D.M.D.
Suite 203 2711 Randolph Road
Charlotte, NC 28207  Ph: (704) 376-6470

MAY 25 - 27  DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA

9th Annual Lutheran Conference on the Holy Spirit "COME AND WORSHIP"
PLACE: Plaza Hotel
CONTACT: Rev. Bill Amos  HOTEL: Shara Sauer
  c/o Christ Lutheran Church (904) 255-4471
  928 63rd Avenue East  out-of-state
  Bradenton, FL 33507  (800) 874-7514
  (813) 755-7949

THERE WILL BE NO DAYTONA MEETING IN MAY BECAUSE THE REEDS WILL BE
GUEST SPEAKERS AT THE LUTHERAN CONFERENCE ON THE HOLY SPIRIT.

JUNE 6 - 9  PADUCAH, KENTUCKY

2nd Annual Jackson Purchase Regional Full Gospel Businessmen’s Convention
PLACE: Executive Inn Riverfront
CONTACT: Joe Metzger (502) 442-3503 or (800) 626-5460

JUNE 18 - 20  PORTLAND, OREGON

JUNE 18 – Meeting at Good Samaritan Hospital and Medical Center. Dr. Reed will speak to staff doctors on divine healing.
CONTACT: Fr. R.M. Jepsen

JUNE 18 - 20  Order of St. Luke
PLACE: Lewis and Clark College (near Portland)
CONTACT: Fr. Lindsay and Mary Warren (503) 284-7439

JUNE 23  DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA

Christian Medical Foundation monthly meeting.
AT 7:30 p.m. at the First Presby. Church 620 South Grandview Avenue
CONTACT: CMF office in Tampa (813) 932-3688

JUNE 29, 30, JULY 1  WASHINGTON D.C.

CHRISTIAN OPHTHALMOLOGY MEETING – for doctors and their spouses.
PLACE: J.W. Marriott Hotel 1331 Pennsylvania Ave. Northwest
CONTACT: Bert Souryal, M.D. 7923 Landing Lane Falls Church Va 22043
PHONE: (202) 331-1754

REMEMBER!!
Every Tuesday – 10 a.m. Ladies Bible Study. Kay speaks at 10:30, Dr. Reed at 1 p.m., healing service at 2:00 p.m.
Desire Spirit-filled Christian Psychiatrist(s), adult/child, to join me as soon as possible, hopefully by July. A referral area of 1 and 1/2 million population in a lovely community of Charlotte. A new 150 bed facility in process of construction. There is a genuine future here.
Please contact: Meyers Powell M.D.
2315 Randolph
Charlotte, N.C. 28207
Ph: (704) 377-4243
(704) 333-1774

Am planning to return to fulltime medical mission work and will sell my private General Ophthalmology solo practice (Optical Shop) anytime between now and July 1984. Located in Franklinton, Louisiana, 60 miles north of New Orleans, rural atmosphere. The practice is 6 and 1/2 years old with approx. 8,000 charts, 20% of which are new to the practice in 1983.
For more information call:
(504) 839-5633 Van C. Joffrion, M.D.
8:00 - 4:00 Monday, Tues., Thurs., and Friday
(Write state purpose for call)

Christian F.P. seeking Board Cert. or Board Elig. F.P. of like faith to join him in busy medical practice. Modern, well-equipped office with fully-trained staff in mid-size Calif. city. Excellent place to raise family, with many strong Church congregations.
Please contact: Paul D. Belford, M.D.
6111 N. First Suite 101
Fresno, CA 93710
(209) 432-0335

Family physician wanted: Christian partner is needed to aid in growing solo practice in Laurel, MD (outside D.C.) Should be Board eligible or Bd. cert. in F.P.. Practice includes Gen.PRACT., Internal Med., Pediatrics, and Gyn. as well as general nutrition and nutritional therapies. New attractive office, ideal for family environment.
Send resume to: Paul V. Beals, M.D.
9101 Cherry Lane Park Suite 205
Laurel, MD 20708

Seeking a spirit-filled, sold out, Christian Pediatrician to associate with me over the next year or so.
Please contact: Nathan L. Wright, M.D.
1001 Main Street
Texarkana, Texas 75501

WE ARE HAPPY TO ANNOUNCE: "The Nurses Christian Fellowship" is introducing a quarterly pulication, "The Journal of Christian Nursing." Nurses who desire to integrate spiritual interventions into their patient care will be blessed by the practical suggestions in such articles as: "Whole Person Care: a New Testament Example", "Helping Children Cope with Death", "How to Assess the Spiritual Needs of Adolescents." To Order this fine magazine: Write to the:
JOURNAL OF CHRISTIAN NURSING
P.O. BOX 1650
DOMERS GROVE, IL 60515

Reg. Price $16 but a Charter Subscriber pays only $12.95, tax deductible.
 Administrator-owner-operator of a rural health center, searching for a Christian primary care physician to affiliate with this medical center as physician supervisor. Please contact: John C. O'Brien P.A. - C.
The Arnold Memorial Medical Center
Main Street
Jonesport, Maine 04649
(207) 497-5614
Dear Friends of the Littlest Angel:

God is blessing our endeavors and we hope soon to advertise locally to encourage street business. Each day now, passersby drop in to browse and God uses many of these "casual" visits to further acquaint people with the ministry and message of Christian Medical Foundation.

In Tampa's department stores, this fashion season has been heralded as "the return to elegance." At the Littlest Angel, we have stocked our own elegance. Gracious handpainted, signed sunhats, happy handpainted, signed golf visors, hand-dyed spring baskets of mauve, daffodil, jade, and robin egg blue and beautiful silk flowers create a celebration of color as you enter our tiny shop. Our beige and white embroidered and cutwork placemats, napkins and guest towels would make any occasion special. Our hand-embroidered handkerchiefs priced at $2.50 each are just the "right" little present to express your appreciation. Available with violets, strawberries, forget-me-nots or the understated beauty of white embroidery on white, we'd be happy to mail your choice to you.

From our Book Nook -- we are offering in this newsletter the newly published large print Amplified Bible in softcover ($19.95 plus postage and handling) or hardback ($29.95 plus postage and handling). This is a super study Bible.

A warm thank you to all of you who have sent lovely one-of-a-kind gifts for sale in our shop and to all our volunteers who man the Littlest Angel. As you know, the Littlest Angel was created to defray CMF's running expenses--when you buy gifts from us you help the Foundation.

Until next issue......Love,