

January 7, 2019

Livingston Update

“Faith in God includes faith in His timing.”

I saw my orthopedic surgeon early in December, and he was confident that I would not need anymore surgery since what he was seeing on the x-ray almost always healed. Therapy was going well, and it looked like I would soon be independent of the walker. I was able to drive to Lansing, Michigan, and be with my sister for Christmas. I made it back safely, grateful for good weather and good roads. I was glad to be able to stand straight, and was looking forward to continued improvement. It was a surprise that therapy was more challenging than expected last Friday, and a concern that the hip started aching during the weekend. I was already scheduled to see my doctor today.

It can be interesting to hear, “I have never seen this before,” but not during a check-up for a fracture. The fracture in my left hip has not healed, there is some slippage, and the hip is actually partially out of joint. The failure of healing is always a possibility with a hip pinning, and it can take time before the failure is evident. The explanation was that this was a “biological failure,” not related to anything I did or did not do. The lack of healing will mean a hip replacement, and I have an appointment on Friday to schedule the operation.

This is certainly a disappointment, but I am trusting that my Father knows best. One of the verses from the sermon I heard on December 30 spoke to my heart and continues to encourage me. *“Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.”* (Joshua 1:9) I knew this failure could happen, but the command is to not be afraid or dismayed, and for the best reason—God is always with me.

I finished reading Revelation in December, and rejoiced in the reality that one day all things will be made new and there will be no more sin. It is hard to go back to Genesis, not because of the wonder and perfection of God’s creation, but because of the disaster that happened to it because of our sin. Now I will be reading of all that God has done to rescue us and how sacrificial His love is for us.

Please pray for the following.

--It would be great if the surgery takes place sooner rather than later, and that healing will happen this time, as God wills.

--Some of the clinic staff have been seriously ill. It is difficult to make a good evaluation at this distance.

--God has a lesson for me in all of this, but I am not sure what it is. I do know that it is rather hard to see this situation as a good gift from Him just now, but I also know He is only good and only does good.

So many of you have encouraged me as you have let me know that you are praying for me. Thanks for your continued prayers!

In our Lord’s service,

*Dr. Anne*