

Which Frog Are You?

April 21, 2005

TWO FROGS

Two frogs fell in a deep cream bowl.
Only one was an optimistic soul;
The other took a dimmer view...
"We'll drown," he sighed, with much ado.
And so, with one despairing cry,
He fell on his back and said, "Good-bye."

But the other frog said, with an optimistic grin,
"I can't get out, but I won't give in!
Why, I'll swim around at least until my strength is spent,
And then if I die, I'll die content!"

And so he swam and he swam until it seemed
That his swimming began to churn the cream!
At last, on top of the butter he stopped,
And out of the bowl he gaily hopped!

The moral of the story is easily found:
"If you can't get out, JUST KEEP SWIMMING AROUND!"

...as retold by Wayne Flora
Heard first from Walt Trumbo

WAYNE FLORA, A PASTOR WHO I MET IN THE HOSPITAL WHEN I WAS PUT ON MY VENTILATOR, STOPPED BY TO SEE ME THE OTHER DAY AND GAVE ME THIS POEM.. I IMMEDIATELY FELT LIKE THIS POEM WAS DIRECTLY TALKING TO LYNN, MY WIFE, AND I. BECAUSE THREE YEARS AGO FROM THIS PAST MONDAY, LYNN AND I HAD TO MAKE THE DECISION, VERY MUCH LIKE THESE TWO FROGS, GIVE UP OR KEEP ON PADDLING. AT THE TIME WE HAD NO IDEA WHAT GOD WAS GOING TO DO WITH OUR LIVES, NOR REALIZE HOW DIFFICULT LIVING ON A VENTILATOR WOULD BECOME. I CAN TELL YOU IT HAS BEEN TREMENDOUSLY TOUGH AND TIRESOME ON LYNN AT TIMES TRYING TO CARE FOR ME AND TAKE CARE OF TWO KIDS., AND I HAVE OFTEN FELT LIKE FROG NUMBER ONE, IN SEEING SUCH AN IMPOSSIBLE MOUNTAIN TO CLIMB AND WANTING TO DIE, BUT SOMEHOW, SOMEWAY, GOD CONTINUED TO MANAGE PUSHING US THROUGH OUR MOST TROUBLING TIMES. IS IT TO BE HEALED FROM THIS DISEASE OR DOES HE WANT LYNN AND I TO KEEP SWIMMING AROUND TO TOUCH AND SAVE A SOUL? I DON'T HAVE THE ANSWER, EXCEPT TO SAY, WHEN I DO DIE I WILL KNOW THAT I SWAM AS FAR AND LONG WITH THE ABILITY GOD GAVE ME, AND THEN IF MY CREAM DOES TURN TO BUTTER AND I HOP OUT OF THIS WHEELCHAIR, AWESOME, BUT IF NOT, I'LL BE CONTENT KNOWING I GAVE IT ALL MY HEART AND SOUL.. IF I HAVE LEARNED ONE THING FROM THIS BATTLE WITH LOU GEHRIG'S, THAT IT WOULD BE MUCH EASIER TO QUIT WHEN TRIALS AND TRIBULATIONS COMING STORMING YOUR WAY, THAN IT IS TO STAND UP AND TACKLE THEM HEAD ON. IF YOU READ THE BIBLE MUCH YOU'LL NOTICE MEN AND WOMEN OF GOD DO NOT RUN AWAY FROM THE MOST DIFFICULT STORMS IN LIVE, BUT RATHER TRUSTI GOD IN SEEING THEM THROUGH TIL THE VERY END. ROMANS 5:3-4 SAYS, NOT ONLY SO, BUT WE ALSO REJOICE IN OUR SUFFERINGS, BECAUSE WE KNOW THAT OUR SUFFERING PRODUCES PERSEVERANCE; PERSEVERANCE, CHARACTER; AND CHARACTER, HOPE. THE SECOND FROG DEFINED THIS SCRIPTURE TO ITS VERY CORE OF THE MEANING. NOW I MUST ASK, WHICH FROG DO YOU WANT TO BE? GOD BLESS,
KEITH LECLAIR