

Devotion, Week of October 20, 2024
Rev. Jeanne Simpson

I know prayer works. You folks have prayed for Jim and me for weeks, and I'm much better, finally, and Jim is on the mend. I've heard thanksgivings from other folks in the congregation for prayers you've lifted up for them, as well. One of the things we do when we pray is open our hearts to God with everything – our sorrows, our joys, our fears, our hopes. One thing we may not do as well is listen for an answer, because that answer doesn't often come right away.

I try to just give it over to God – whatever is bothering me – and try to quit worrying about it. That's hard at 2:00 in the morning, when it seems to me, the darkness hits us the most. And I am so impatient by nature, that often I keep wanting that answer from God right now. One thing I've learned with this infection I had is that getting better is a very slow process. Improvement comes in tiny steps. I forget sometimes to be thankful for the tiny step forward and instead focus on what seems like a major step back. But if I look back, the tiny steps forward have truly gotten me ahead of the steps backward. I try to remember that, when I pray for healing.

I hope you take some time every day to thank God for your blessings, to look around you at this glorious world He made, with all the fall colors and cool air, and be thankful, even as you have burdens on your heart that you pray for Him to relieve. Know that the congregation prays for you also, and look for those tiny steps forward.

Jeanne