

Caregiving

Dear Master, please speak to the One Who is All. Ask Him to Divinely intervene for all those suffering from incurable diseases, terminal ones, chronic pain types, not fatal but lifelong disabling, even those short term hard ones whose impact last and lasts.

*Ask Him not to just intervene for us victims, but **much more importantly** those who care for us. We, who are ill, just have to do what we are told. Those 'watching' over us, our advocates, the ones who 'question,' have the far more difficult job. Please, please, please Lord, take care of them!!!*

From 'Thoughts on Prayer' – Anonymous

It's impossible to describe what it means to be a caregiver. It is way beyond the Jack of all Trades, and instead of being a Master of None, one must be a Master of All.

I believe the hardest job when someone falls ill, is not that of the patient but the people surrounding them, caring for them. The only responsibility the patient has, **is do what they're told**. The caregiver has to make sure what the patient is being told is the right thing for them. And this isn't just dealing with one medical professional but often several, on an ever changing basis.

And as far as doing anything for the person who is ill, the reality for the caregiver is... all they can do is watch and make sure. And watching is by far the hardest job. I know this from experience having walked in the shoes of both the patient and the caregiver.

Yes, I am sure who has the more difficult task. It is the caregiver, or as I call them, **The Watchers**. And it's not just the fourth watch of the night, it's all the watches of the day, all day long, twenty-four seven day after day after day.... Being a person who has an incredible group of caregivers from a medical professional standpoint, I find myself so lucky... literally I thank God thousands of times a day for these people and people like them. And I pray relentlessly for them and for all for whom they care.

Sometimes some of my caregivers want to give me credit. Credit for working hard. Or for staying at it, regardless of difficulty.

Things like, "Wow, you really do a great job!"

Or, "You're so persistent!"

My reply is always, "I'm just doing what I am told. And hey! Credit is really a heavy burden. I certainly don't deserve the credit. Don't want that burden! Give credit where credit is due. Credit the One who has made us all in His Image and Likeness. Credit Him for giving my caregivers the skills to do what it takes to keep me self-sufficient and mobile."

To me, it is a sure sign that the Advocate works relentlessly in all categories physical, mental, and spiritual driving all of us, patients and caregivers alike, to do the right thing, **all the time!**

Praise Him in all His Omnipresent and Omnipotent Triune-ness!

And **always** remember, give credit where credit is due. To Him and Him only! All the time. Because all the time, He is great!!

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