

February 13, 2021 Daily Church Email

A story from Timothy Brown:

I remember a trip to the hospital just a few years ago. I was there to visit a beautiful young man from Spring Lake, Michigan, whose life was being robbed one blood cell at a time by a vicious and unrelenting leukemia. Because he was so weakened, I knelt next to his bed to look at him eyeball to eyeball. I said quietly, "Hi, Tim," and he responded faintly, "Hi, Tim." There followed an awkward pause because I didn't exactly know what to say. The long, dark shadow of death has a way of muffling through much of our otherwise meaningless "chitchat." Finally, Tim broke the deafening silence by saying gently, "I have learned something."

Now I knew at least this much -- you never trifle with the last words of a dying person, so I said, "Tell me, what have you learned?"

He said, again very faintly, "I have learned that life isn't like a VCR."

Perplexed, I said, "I don't get it. What do you mean?"

He said, drawing his next breath in pain, "Life isn't like a VCR -- you can't fast-forward the bad parts."

As I knelt there, fighting back the tears and trying to take it all in, he interrupted my awkward silence again by asking, "You know what else I learned?"

I said, "No, I really don't. Please tell me."

"I have learned," he whispered, "that Jesus Christ is in every frame, and right now it's just enough." --

In Christ, we are never lost.

(Timothy Brown, "God Is in Every Frame," *Perspectives*, May 1997, 24.)

Have a blessed day in Christ,
Pastor Julie

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