

Kevin (*Healing*)

The year was 1985. They were warm summer days with nothing to do, but writhe in pain. Let me explain. In 1984, I was let go from a Cabinet Ship because I would not denounce Christ. My newfound faith in Christ was bubbling out on to everyone I met, including my co-workers. Most of them just made fun of me, while others conspired with management to get rid of me. Although I was let go, I was able to witness to two co-workers who received Jesus as their Savior. Jack told me that his wife also received Jesus as well. Barry who also received Christ in '84, died of cancer in '93. He was only 34 years old.

Searching everywhere for a job, none could be found. My brothers and my friends would get together on weekends to play football. At 29 years old, I was still a very good athlete. Yet in this summer of '85, I developed a nagging pain in my left hip. It made it hard to run. The pain was severe at times and my leg was going numb. Having no medical or hospitalization, I decided to admit myself into the V.A. Medical Center. I am an Ex-Marine, you know.

After the Doc checked me over, he said I had severe sciatic nerve damage. He told me that they would treat me for the pain through treatments and medications. He then told me that with the damage that was done, the numbness of my foot may be permanent. My leg was numb from the knee down to my foot. He then mentioned something about some kind of shoe or ankle brace that would hold my foot steady so I wouldn't drag it along as I walked. Stunned and shocked at this news, I said to him, "Sir, I'm going to run out of your hospital someday. God has plans for me." He said calmly, "Well, okay."

Weeks went by. Their treatments were not working. The pain medicine was, but when it wore off, I was back in pain. In the evenings, I would limp down to a section of the hospital that was temporarily closed off. Camped out on a bed in a poorly lit room, I would pray to God for healing and worship Him with my guitar, singing and playing all the worship songs I knew.

Jeremiah 29:11 says, "I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." This I believed with my whole heart. I didn't believe God would leave me this way. I wanted to serve Him.

It was Thursday morning. As I awoke to music coming from one of my roommates, I was surprised that my left leg was able to keep the beat to the song. My foot hadn't moved in months. I attempted to wiggle my toes, and I could. Excited, I jumped out of bed, stomped my foot on the floor. "Whoa!" I could feel that. Well, let's see if I could run. To the hallway I ran, up and down the hallway I ran!

"Praise the Lord!" I ran to the nurse's station and asked if the Doc was in. They said he would be in by nine. I didn't want to wait, so I ran down to see John, the physical therapist. "Hey John, check me out. I believe the Lord healed me this morning!" John was a born-again Christian, so he smiled and said, "Hop up here! Let's see!" He tugged and pulled, pushed and shoved. He said, "Man, I think you're healed. Praise the Lord!" I said, "Thanks John! I'll see you later!" I ran back to my room and waited to see the doctor.

The Doc came in and around nine and said, "The nurses tell me that you were running up and down the halls here this morning." "Yes! God healed me!" "Well let's see." He checked me over the same way John had done. "Great!" He said, "I guess you can be released as soon as we get the paperwork done." I packed my bags and got ready to go. And when they gave me the okay, I ran out of their hospital.

I left there on Saturday. On Sunday, the church was having their Church in the Park Sunday. The Pastor asked me to share my testimony on how God healed me. That same day, I played softball and hit 3 homeruns and played centerfield. The people would cheer and praise God when I would run down a fly ball. I am a living testimony of what God can do.

P.S. Oh by the way, my Jehovah-Jireh provided me a job in '87. I am now a Postal Carrier for the U.S.P.S. This is why I've been tracking the miles that I have been walking. As of February 4th, 2006, I've walked 47,360 miles. That's nearly twice around the world. Our God is an Awesome God. "Praise the Lord!"