

Scott's Thoughts

August 31, 2025



“Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary,

and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.” (Isaiah 40:28–31, ESV)

Far too many times in my life, I’ve said, “I quit.” Most of those times, I’ve regretted doing so—but occasionally, I’ve been happy to be done with whatever had frustrated me. If I were to put a number to it, I’d say that sticking with something has brought satisfactory results far more often than quitting ever has.

From the first day the doctor looked at us and said, “I’m sorry, but I found a tumor that will need to come out,” it seemed like information was given out in little bits—each piece leading to more questions, which received only vague answers at best. We were led along with phrases like, “Well, before we can move forward, we need this or that.” We still had questions about treatment or diagnosis when we left. The frustration was waiting and doing nothing for a week or more when I thought we could have done something during that time to be ready for the next step.

I appreciate doctors who are open and honest with me because it keeps me encouraged. For the last eight

years, I’ve been closely monitored. During that time, my renal doctor has kept me informed about the changes taking place and what the next steps will be. She’s also explained the symptoms I should watch for that might indicate a change in treatment is needed. She has been open and honest with me, never hiding the eventual outcome of my treatment. Hiding the bad only dumps reality on me all at once, especially when I have had a much higher expectation.

So, the question is: how can we live with this? It’s not easy. But we have to learn to give up control. We have to trust in something greater than ourselves—and the sooner, the better. Some people seem naturally laid back and can take things as they come. Others take control of their situations. But all of us, no matter what our personality type, will reach a point in life when we realize there is nothing we can do to affect the outcome of our current dilemma. When we hit that point, what we do next can make all the difference in the world.

The old saying is this: “Let go and let God.” I wish it were as easy to do as it is to say—but it’s true.

“So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.” (2 Corinthians 4:16–18, ESV)

Thanks for listening and keep on shining

—Scott