

'I love you and will pray for you from Heaven'



The phone rang repeatedly. Taking it to be an emergency, I answered and the voice at the other end said, "*Rekha, Sr. Lilly is very serious. She can die any moment. Before that she wants to talk to you.*"

Sr. Lilly was my Superior in one of the Communities years back while I was a junior Sister and she was one of those persons who simply loved me, selflessly, unconditionally and very fondly.

Immediately I turned on the video call and saw beloved Sr. Lilly on the hospital bed, with nasal cannula, breathing with great un-ease. She looked at me and mumbled a wonderful promise, "*Rekha, I love you, and I will pray for you from heaven!*"

I was totally stunned and speechless! I have heard that as the body shuts down, most of the dying persons lose interest in people around them and just withdraw. How could this lady lying in deep pain and agony, almost at the verge of death, be so thoughtful and altruistic...**unless it was the power of His Resurrection!** She didn't ask for prayers, rather she promised her prayerful support from heaven! She reminded me of Jesus, who, before His death on the Cross, out of His great love, prayed for His disciples in John 17. **'The height of Love'...that promises support and accompaniment, not only on earth, but beyond it!**

That same evening, Sr. Lilly breathed her last and for sure, was with Her Risen Lord in Heaven, showering blessings upon us, her loved ones, from above!

Friends, **when we know who we are and whom we belong to**, when we realize we're full of Resurrection Power, we won't live intimidated, thinking, "Oh, this problem is too big". No, we'll put our shoulders back knowing that the same power that raised Christ from the dead lives on the inside of us.

A missionary shared about a dream that he had. In this dream he saw himself standing in a large room. At the other end of the room, Satan himself was standing there staring at him very evilly. This terrible gaze was holding him captive. He tried again and again to break free and get out of the room but he couldn't move. He was totally paralyzed. The more he tried, the more he struggled, the more Satan would sarcastically laugh. In the dream, he was so afraid that he couldn't pray, he couldn't quote a scripture, couldn't remember anything. He was frozen stiff, held hostage by these evil glaring eyes.

Then all of a sudden, Jesus stepped into the room and walked right between the two men. Jesus was facing Satan with his back to this man. Jesus started backing up. The man said, "*No, Jesus. Don't back up. You're not afraid of Satan*". But Jesus kept backing up and backing up until he got right in front of this man. There was nowhere else to go. But in his dream, Jesus took another step backwards and he stepped into the man. *Jesus' arms went into his arms. Jesus' legs into his legs. Jesus' torso into his torso.* When Jesus completely disappeared into him, the missionary saw himself lift his hand and point at Satan and Satan immediately fell to the ground and he gloriously walked out of that room.

Now we may not feel powerful but we've got to know that **the most powerful force in the universe is on the inside of us**. At the name of Jesus, the scripture says, everything has to bow. We don't have anything to be afraid of.

The scripture says, *"To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord"*. When there comes our time to go, we'll breathe one final breath but **that's not the end**. Our next breath, we'll be more alive than ever, breathing heavenly air, at a place where there is no pain, no sickness and no sorrow. We can say with the apostle Paul, *"Oh death, where is your victory? Oh grave, where is your sting"*? We know we have resurrection power. We know those that are for us are greater than those that are against us. We know our enemy has been eternally defeated.

EASTER challenges us; *"Put your shoulders back. Hold your head up high. You are not weak, intimidated or helpless. The same power that raised Christ from the dead lives on the inside of you. If you'll rise up and tap into this power; because He lives, you too will live an abundant, overcoming, faith-filled, victorious life. In Jesus' name."* Amen!

HE IS ALIVE and we are full of 'RESURRECTION POWER'! BLESSED EASTER!

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