

4/3/14

This is one of my favorite quotes by Jeffrey R. Holland:

“Jesus has chosen, even in a resurrected, otherwise perfected body, to retain for the benefit of His disciples the wounds in His hands and in His feet and in His side-signs, if you will, that painful things happen even to the pure and the perfect; signs, if you will, that pain in this world is not evidence that God doesn't love you; signs, if you will, that problems pass and happiness can be ours.”

In the book "The Power of Everyday Missionaries" Clayton Christensen talks about how he studied the D&C to find the benefits to doing missionary work and how to balance it with all the other callings and stresses on daily life that we have. He found so many blessings and realized that really when you do the Lord's work in that area, so many other aspects of our lives will be taken care of and the blessings of doing it are amazing. He listed out many scriptures and categorized them like this:

### **Power and Strength**

None shall stay you (1:5).

You shall receive strength such as is not known among men (24:12).

He Himself will go with you and be in your midst. Nothing shall prevail against you (32:3).

Power shall rest upon you. He will be with you and go before your face (39:12).

Your enemies will not have power over you (44:5).

The Lord will stand by you (68:6).

No weapon formed against you shall prosper (71:9).

He will uphold you (93:51).

The gates of hell shall not prevail against you (17:8).

You shall have power to declare His word (99:2).

Your tongue shall be loosed, and you will have the power of God unto the convincing of men (11:21).

Your mouth shall be filled and you shall become even as Nephi of old (33:8).

You will not be confounded. It shall be given you in the very hour that portion that shall be meted unto every man (84:85, 100:5).

Your words shall be scripture, shall be the will of the Lord, shall be the mind of the Lord, and shall be the voice of the Lord and the power of God unto salvation (68:4).

Your arm will be God's arm. He will be your shield and buckler; He will gird up your loins and put your enemies under your feet (35:14).

### **Personal Purity and Increased Faith**

You shall stand blameless before God (4:2).

You shall be lifted up at the last day (17:8).

You will be given a testimony of the words of the prophets (21:9).

You shall have revelations (28:8).

Your sins will be forgiven (31:5, 36:1, 60:7, 62:3, 84:61).

You shall have great faith (39:12).

You will be able to keep God's laws (44:5).

### **Happiness, Health and Prosperity**

You shall have blessings greater than the treasures of earth (19:37-38).

He will take care of your flocks (88:72).

Your back shall be laden with sheaves (31:5, 33:9).

You shall not be weary in mind, body, limb or joint, and you shall not go hungry or thirsty. A hair from your head shall not fall to the ground unnoticed (84:80, 116).

Your joy shall be great (18:14-15).

### **Holy Ghost**

He will send upon you the Comforter, which shall teach you the truth and the way wither you shall go (79:2).

The Holy Ghost shall be shed forth in bearing record of all things, whatsoever ye shall say (100:8).

He will go before your face. He will be on your right hand and on your left: His Spirit shall be in your hearts, and His angels round about you, to bear you up (84:88).

He will bear you up as on eagles' wings; and you shall beget glory and honor to yourself and unto the Lord's name (124:18).

He will make you holy (60:7).

Then he goes on to say: "Sharing the gospel doesn't just *require* that we have the power of God unto the convincing of men. It *gives* us this power... Missionary work will help those of us who are battling against addictions and bad habits and are struggling to feel worthy, to stand blameless before God, to become forgiven of our sins, and to have the strength to keep God's laws. It doesn't just demand our purity. It will *help* us be pure. For those of us who struggle with sadness, sharing the gospel will give us great joy. It will make us become holy men and women who have great revelations and are borne up from our burdens as on eagles' wings, begetting glory and honor to ourselves and unto the Lord's name."

I think that is very powerful! I thought you could share that with Brandon, and I know that some of the blessings are some you are seeking and I am seeking too. I want so bad to share the gospel, but I have had the hardest time. I am praying daily for opportunities and especially for the strength to open my mouth. But I know the Lord delivers on His promises and these are promises, so I am going to try harder!

Ok, that is it for now, but I will send more your way as I think of them!!!

Love you so much!!!!

Love, Tiff

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4/7/14

Hi my wonderful son!!!

So I got to see where you were all day yesterday! Brother Hansen sent a text with your picture and all it said was, "Conference breakfast." It came through as just a number and I thought maybe it was your cell phone. I looked at the picture and recognized the Hansen's home in the background and texted, "It looks like the Hansen's home!" :D Dad told me later it WAS the Hansen's and Brother Hansen had sent the text. So I sent another text explaining the silly text from earlier and then felt pleased that I HAD recognized their home, and of course the plate you held was a perfect above and beyond breakfast to celebrate Conference in a very Sister Hansen style.:) So at least I got the people right, huh? And then your dinner looked like another feast! Yesterday must have been a really wonderful day to soak in the messages of conference and enjoy it with wonderful members and several investigators!! You really are having an incredible mission, my son!!!

Last week was packed full! I brought a basket of goodies to the staff at Envita with a thank you card that I had wanted to send all last month, but I had ordered a plaque with a quote of Proverbs 3:5-6 on it: Trust in the Lord with all thine heart, etc. and it came just a couple of days before I came back. So I took it in myself. One of the goodies was a Texas-shaped box with the pecan roca I like to buy at Christmas time. Of course they LOVED it!!! After immunotherapy, I went and got a scan. The nurse put an IV in one arm and it "blew" as she put it, so she had to do the other arm. Both hurt. :( Oh well. I got the scan and then I drove down to see Spencer. He showed me his apartment and then we went to a restaurant and he drove me around a bit.

On Tuesday I got my blood drawn from my arm for tests and the phlebotomist took one vile of blood and then took out the needle. I asked if that was all because I thought there were several tests they were doing. She looked at her paper and realized she didn't get enough. So she had to poke me again. Luckily she didn't hurt me very much on either pokes. After immunotherapy I went back to the apartment and my cousin, Mischelle came over about 2:00 and we had a great time talking and strengthening each other. She left about 10:30 PM. Then I called Spencer and I think we talked till 12:30.

Wednesday was immunotherapy again and then an appointment with Dr. Grado, my radiation oncologist who went over the results of the scan. I didn't ask very good questions so it wasn't very informative. He did tell me that there are calcium deposits in the tumors which is a very good sign. It means the calcium is starting to wall off the tumors and that will prevent the tumors from receiving nutrients. But the radiologist report from the imaging place had given a comparison of that scan to the previous pet scan I got in December. I had gotten a couple of CT scans at Dr. Grado's in January and February and so I wanted a comparison of those by Dr. Grado, but he didn't. So My Dr. at Envita is trying to get that information. (did that make any sense?:) )

After that appointment, I met Sister "BOWman" (as she says you pronounce it:) ) at Kneaders and we ate and talked and just barely made the 7:30 session. It was really great! Got home late that night again!

Tuesday I got the blood test results back and met with Dr. Oertle (pronounced Ertle) and because the tumor marker went from 12 to 15 he wanted me to stay an extra week. So I was pretty bummed and so was Dad. After immuno, I met Spencer after his work and he wanted to put a package together for you. So we headed to Chandler and found a Target and had fun shopping. After dropping it off, we went and got food and I took him home. Because I was a little bummed out about the blood results and of course his situation isn't what I want, I got pretty sad. I was crying in the car as I left and decided to call him. I couldn't tell him my feelings about his spiritual stuff, but I apologized for my less than enthusiastic goodbye and told him I was sad because of the blood test and was worried about him. So he tried to comfort me. He suggested we get together the next night and go see Captain America. So I said ok.

Friday after immuno, I relaxed a bit at the apartment and then met Spencer in Tempe around 8:30. We went to the movie. Really good, but lots of killing. (Surprise!) Afterward we talked for a while about the solar stuff and I asked a lot of questions. He really enjoyed talking. But it was 12:30 and I was getting tired. I asked what he was doing Sunday and he asked why. I invited him to watch General Conference with me. He declined so I was bummed out again.

Anyway, Conference was so good and by the end of the Sunday morning session I was feeling filled with the words of the Lord and all that sort of thing.:) I spent a lot of time on the phone with Dad, Emily, Damon and Grandma Scott. It was nice after a very busy week to just stay in the apartment and enjoy the outpouring of revelation! I even went and got a nice cross stitch pattern to do while I'm at Envita, so I got out a couple of times on Saturday, also getting food for the week. And on Sunday I took a walk around the apartment complex in bare feet enjoying the beauty and quiet and soft grass.:)

Sister BOWman texted me this morning and she and Sister Baer and I are going to go to the temple this week together! I'm looking forward to it! The blessings of the gospel are so beautiful! As Elder Holland says, though, they come at a cost. But it's soooo worth it! I loved Elder Corbridge's talk about Joseph Smith and the things he accomplished and his beautiful and powerful witness of him and the Savior! I also loved Elder Christofferson's powerful testimony of the reality of the resurrection and the blessings that come because of it! He gave a witness of the Savior that I felt he has a sure knowledge of the Lord, a literal eye-witness. Also President Packer. At the end of both their talks, their language is clear in that way. And I loved how Elder Holland bore such a powerful testimony of the priesthood! It all strengthened my faith! Do you remember the talk by Elder Corbridge a few years ago where he said, "He is the way. Any other way, whatever other way is foolishness."? I loved that talk! He has a certain style that is very direct and unique. I guess he was a mission president before and he

also was the one who wrote The Fourth Missionary. Did I send that to you? It is really good! I believe you are a fourth missionary!

I hope you have an awesome week and I know you will! You will learn things you need to learn and meet those you are supposed to meet. Because that's what President Monson said that President Kimball said. And you will love them and be kind to them and bless them!

I love you soooooo much!!!!

Love, Mom

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4/14/14

Hi Taylor!!!

Well, you are out of your comfort zone (pun intended!) and now you are in a new zone and you are the zone leader! I hope things are going well. I know you miss who you left, but there are great experiences ahead that will help you grow and also where you will be able to help so many others grow too! People follow leaders who have titles to a certain level, but they zealously follow leaders who have moral authority. Moral authority comes from having Christlike attributes. That's why Ghandi had a whole nation follow him even though he never even held a government office or title. George Washington held a title in the war, and the men followed, but he was revered because of his character, not his title. And of course, Jesus is the ultimate example as always! I know you are striving to become like him more and more and those desires and qualities will powerfully influence your zone, your investigators, and your companion! I guess it's companions! :) I just went to your Facebook page and saw them! I haven't been on FB for a week or more, so there were a lot of posts I hadn't read. Looks like you are still riding the awesome wave. I'm sure a threesome can be tough in some ways, but you will do great I know! They look like they are great!!!

It's good to be back home. I've started juicing to boost what is being done in Arizona. I tried to see if eating normally without sugar, of course, would be ok, but since the tumor marker went up, (it went up to 19.6, which isn't that much again, but we want it to be going DOWN!!) I'm upping the veggie intake and I'm sure there will be some good results coming! Also, your prayers will have a huge effect! Thank you! Thank you!! I know this cancer is going away, it's just a matter of time. I just want to boost the time up!!!

Last Wednesday I met Sister Bowman and Sister Baer at the Gilbert Temple for the 4:00 session. We whispered in the Celestial Room for 3 hours and then probably another hour in the dressing room! It was a wonderful time! Truly kindred spirits! Friends I wouldn't have met without your mission. Missions are the best! :) I felt glad that I could stay an extra week because I was able to go to the temple, see Spencer again, and meet a few people at Envita I hadn't met before and give them love and encouragement. It's amazing how many people I have met through this experience!

Last Thursday Spencer picked me up and we went to the Mesa Easter pageant. It was good. I think Spencer was a little stir crazy, but we enjoyed our visit with each other.

The Lord is pushing me to levels of trust and faith that I never thought I'd be pushed to. I am feeling slightly what trusting with ALL my heart actually feels like and means. It comes in waves, not a steady flow, but it is stronger now. I can't control certain things in my life and I have had to completely turn them over to Heavenly Father, with faith that whatever the outcome, I trust in His goodness and mercy, His loving Kindness, His power and majesty, His infinite ability because of the infinite atonement of His perfect and marvelous Son. And what I feel deep down after really embracing that is peace. A strong sense of peace, maybe what the Savior called a peace that passeth understanding. Satan may rage, but I know in whom I have trusted.

The weather is heating up in Arizona! Is there anything you need or would like? I hope you have a marvelously magnificent week Elder Janis!!! You are in my thoughts, prayers and always in a very dear, special, sacred place in my heart. I love you exceedingly, extensively, extraordinarily, greatly, highly, incredibly, and profoundly!!!

Love,  
Mom

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4/21/14

Hi Taylor!

I am SO glad you are loving your new area and new assignment! You are totally capable and the Lord will magnify your efforts and the work will roll forward and powerfully!! What an amazing experience you had as you were there to give a message of hope to that man at a time when he was experiencing such grief over his daughter. I know you were there at that time for the Lord's purposes in blessing his life. It is such a privilege to be an instrument in His hands, because it fills you with a portion of the love He has for others and also for you!

This week has been a challenge. Dad has been on the research warpath trying to find more ways to help me get better. I came home deciding to juice and look into more detox protocols, and Dad felt the same thing while he was in the temple. So we are looking at going out to Mexico (Tijuana) at the end of May for three weeks to do a therapy that involves a lot of organic juicing and coffee enemas. It is highly effective at curing advanced cancer. At this place they teach you how to do it and also have some other immunotherapies. Then you go home and continue on your own for TWO YEARS. I know it is the thing I need to get this completely gone. I wasn't prepared to do this last September, but I am totally ready now. It is a full time job, as it requires me to make and drink a juice every waking hour and doing an enema every two hours. The coffee is made of organic green coffee beans only slightly

roasted. It isn't like the coffee you drink. It is also not taken orally. When it is put in, it absorbs into the liver and increases the effectiveness of its cleansing abilities 700%! The therapy also lets you eat 3 meals a day, but it is a very strict diet of only certain foods, mostly of vegetables and fruits, with a bowl of oatmeal and rye toast for breakfast, a vegetable soup and salad, cooked vegetable, and baked potato for lunch and dinner. Fresh fruit as snacks throughout the day. Dad and Emily will come too and they are both planning on doing a modified protocol. It doesn't have to be as intense as mine, but they are hoping to have really good results too.

I will probably still come out to Envita to get immunotherapy once a month after the trip to Mexico. We will see. I know it will be hard to do because it is so much work, but I will be feeling good the whole time. That's so much better than getting dumped with toxins and losing my hair and being in a wheelchair, etc. I'm so grateful Dad is on board with this way and isn't fighting me on it. He is encouraging me and reading tons about it.

I was wishy washy all week about doing Passover. It was going to be so much work and stress and so many people involved, that I wasn't sure I could pull it off. But by Thursday or Friday morning, I finally decided to go for it and invite everyone I was going to and just see how it fell. I couldn't drop the feeling to do it. So when I invited everyone, they all ended up saying yes!

This is who came: Me, Dad, Emily, Brandon, Mindy, Daenon, Kylee, Ryan, Eden and Alex. Then the two sister missionaries. Then a lady (Lisa) in Nottingham Country ward who is a Jewish convert and her husband who is a Christian convert, and their 6 year old and 1 year old boys. Then the Jewish lady (Rory) the sister missionaries are helping and her non active Mormon husband and their 6 year old and one year old daughters. That's 20 people if you didn't count already!:) We brought in chairs to form a big circle in the family room to do the Seder, to make it more cozy and like a FHE. I went online and found a few coloring pages on the Church's website of Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Jacob, 12 sons, Joseph, and Moses. I colored them and cut them out and put flannel on the back. Then I made little flannel boards for the 2 6 year olds to hold during the story part. I also found on google a set of printable finger puppets depicting the 10 plagues and assembled them with Emily the day before, to keep the children occupied and engaged. It worked a little. They were pretty wild kids!:) NOTHING like you wonderful, well-behaved children!:)

I was still sweating and it was squishy, but the whole thing pulled off great and I think everyone had a good time. Lisa shared her conversion with Rory. Before we started the Seder, I thought we should go around and introduce ourselves to everyone. When Lisa went, she choked up and said how excited she was to be doing a Seder, because she had not celebrated Passover for 14 years. I had Lisa and Rory recite the Mother prayer over the candles. We found the Hebrew transcribed for those prayers and they both recited them. It was really cool to hear it in Hebrew. I think they appreciated it! Lisa brought Matza Ball soup and Rory made Kasha for a side dish which I think really pleased her, especially since

everyone liked it. The sisters came home from church with us and helped me make the roasted red potatoes and keep my nerves calm. They really enjoyed participating in the whole thing too.

I hope you had a wonderful Easter! I am so grateful for the Savior. My suffering, both emotionally (because of Heather and Spencer's choices over the past few years), and my physical suffering, which hasn't been that great, but the seriousness of the illness is, has really increased my level of appreciation for the Savior and what He willingly suffered. I think in your blog post you mentioned something about how He never doubted the Father's love and endured the Garden, trial, crucifixion, and more suffering on the cross. The way you said it (and I can't reference it right now because I am on the plane flying to Arizona right now:) ) struck something in me. I could relate to what you said. It was like I realized that sometimes I either have weak moments of doubt in Heavenly Father's love or maybe wonder at the level of trials I am going through. And I think it's not fair, or when is it going to end, or I've been a good girl, I have, so why all of this? And I know it's weak and I have a talk with myself and with Heavenly Father and plead for strength to endure as I come to submit to His will. But the Savior, who didn't deserve any of what he suffered, willingly did it and never wavered in his knowledge of the purpose and of His Father's reality and constant attention and love. That thought is powerful and I will try to remember that in my weak moments! But it did give me more appreciation on Easter for the glorious acts our beloved Savior did for us, and for His infinite generosity and selfless service!!!! There are so few words that even come close to expressing the majesty of His love, power and gift of eternal life, that I feel I can't praise Him adequately.

I am so happy in the deepest part of my soul that you are where you are doing what you are doing and feeling what you are feeling as you teach and preach and heal and bless and love and serve!!! You are such an example to so many!!! Keep up the great work!!! I saw Sister Short yesterday and she said Corbin is getting his papers going for his mission. I'm excited for him! He's so young though!!!:)

I love you tons and tons!!!!!!!  
Love, Mom

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4/28/14

Hi my sweet wonderful son!!!

You are fabulous!!!!!!!!!!!! I love you so much!!!!!! How did I get so privileged to be your mom? I am so grateful for you!

The Easter Devotional sounds like a great event and I'm sure you did a great job! If I had been watching the whole thing and knowing the details you did, I would probably have been stressed for you, but what a wonderful way it all turned out!:)



So you are back to a two-some companionship. I'm sure you had an awesome time with Elder Karl for the brief time you were able to spend with him! He sounds like a great example of how to end his mission with as much energy as he came in with! Have you been getting Chad's emails? He sounds the same, working hard and trying to get everyone in Germany converted the last few weeks of his mission, or Austria, or wherever he is serving!:) Do you get Brian's emails too?

Well, life just keeps getting more and more adventurous! Dad gave you some details of what we're doing in his email, but if you haven't read it, I'll summarize. We are going to Mexico on Wed (like in 2 days!) for 3 weeks. This place had an opening and we decided we should go sooner than later. I think in my last email I told you all about the therapy. I will have more to tell next week, so it's still all the info I know. Dad and Emily are so supportive and positive. I'm so blessed! We are all actually looking forward to it, it will be kind of vacation-like. It is in Tijuana, Mexico, right across the border of San Diego, CA. We went there with Roark's family once to that waterpark. Do you remember? It's the family video where Heather does the Macarena and turns and her pants have dirt on them. :D

The treatments besides the juicing and food may not be as vacation-like for me, what with doing 5 enemas (with my colostomy) each day, and a couple of therapies that build up a huge army of cells that detect mutated cells and one therapy that is kind of like how they do immunizations by putting in dead something or other things and then the body reacts by spiking a fever, but then goes on the attack in hyperdrive and attack the tumors. And I hear I will feel the attack in my liver. Sounds like a blast, huh? :) BRING IT ON!!!

So on Friday after treatment, I went up to a resort in North Scottsdale to see Sister Bowman. We talked and walked and so enjoyed the conversation, friendship and the beauty and peace of the place. We are going there as a family in a couple of years, just sayin!!! I LOVE that place!!! Then Dad and Brother Bowman came up and we had dinner with them. We talked like we had been long-time friends. They are really wonderful people! About 10:30 that night we got back to the apartment and Spencer came over. Dad was too exhausted for more than 10 minutes of conversation, but I talked with him till about 12:45. :) I feel bad we didn't spend more time with him though.

So in Sunday school we were talking about the children of Israel wandering in the wilderness and eating manna for 40 years and how they complained and wanted something different. Jen Hansen made a comment about how we need to receive what the Lord gives us. He gives us what we need and it may not be exactly what we think we want, but if we look at it like, He gave it to us for our learning and benefit, we need to learn to receive it with gratitude. It reminded me of Elder Wirthlin's talk titled Come What May and Love it. I think it was the way she said it that opened my heart and softened it to accept with gratitude and joy what I have been given, the good the bad and the everything! Like you said in a previous letter, quoting President Uchdorf "be grateful IN all our circumstances, rather than being grateful FOR our

circumstances." I feel like I keep getting this message told to me in many different ways and it might be starting to stick. We'll see!:) )

I love you so much my boy! You are doing so good and it's the best work ever! It is the work of the Lord Jesus Christ, and nothing can compare to the joy, growth, maturity, love, sacrifice, etc. that a mission brings. I hope you have a super fantastic week and learn and grow! Keep smiling, and expect miracles!

Love, Mom

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5/2/14

Dear Family,

As some of you know and some of you don't know, I thought I would send an email out to everyone telling you about our latest adventure we are embarking on. I had been able to go home for the month of March and it was very wonderful to see friends and be in my home and just feel normal. When I went back to Arizona for a "maintanance" week of immunotherapy, I got a blood test and my tumor marker had gone up, rather than down, which was our expectation and hope. So I stayed another week and got another blood test. And it went up again. So I came home for a week to regroup and both Damon and I felt that I should increase the nutrition and detoxification to my protocol.

As we researched, the Gerson Therapy kept coming up. The therapy is essentially a very strict diet of 13 glasses of vegetable juices per day (1 per hour) and three meals of cooked vegetables, salads, potatoes, oatmeal, and fresh organic fruit. That's the nutrition part. The detox part is 3 coffee enemas per day. The liquid is absorbed into the liver and helps the enzyms in the liver that cleanse by 700%.

We found a place in Mexico that administers the Gerson Therapy along with some advanced therapies, some of which are not available in the US. So after study, and prayer, we decided to go. Damon, Emily and I arrived Wednesday afternoon (4/30) and it is interesting so far! We are situated south of Tijuana in Rosarita right on the coast. We are in a condo right next to a house which is the clinic. We are on the 5th floor with a gorgeous ocean view. It is whale migrating season, so we have seen a few whales passing by! And dolphins too!

After one full day of treatments, I was exhausted! Something to do every hour and lots of stuff into me: eating, drinking, shots (in the arm and rear: ) , ivs, and enemas. There are 3 other patients here with their caregivers and it is always so cool to meet new friends. Actually, three of us are from Texas and all of us have colon cancer. Hmmm..... But seriously, I have met so many wonderful people in this whole thing that in many ways getting cancer has been a sweet blessing. Healing from cancer has been and will be an even greater blessing.:)

Anyway, it is a working vacation, but I'm so grateful to be here! I can get wifi at the clinic so I can get emails, but texts cost and so do phone calls, so I will be a little out of reach for 3 weeks. I will try to send at least one more email out part way through.

I want to thank all of you for your love and support and prayers! You are the best family EVER!!!! I am so blessed to have you in my life!!! The Lord has been so generous in His blessings! I want you all to know that I love the gospel with all my heart and the Savior for His love, Atonement, and gift of eternal life with our families. I hope you all have a beautiful week! I love you so much!!!

Love,  
Tiffany

Here are some pictures of the condo we are in with the view:















Here I am hooked to a nebulizer for a therapy I do twice a day. Emily said I look like Batman's nemesis, Bane.



This is in the house, or clinic. It's the kitchen where all the food and juices are prepared.



From left to right: Danny (colon cancer from North Houston), Danny's mother, Donna, me, Damon, our day cook, Laura, Leslie (breast cancer from Alaska, her husband, Tim, Dr. Vickers, Leslie (colon cancer from Beaumont), her boyfriend, Troy, our nurse, Liset, and Monica, the lady who makes our juices in the day. This is out on the back porch. The Beaumont couple was going home today, so we got a picture with most of us.



Today being my birthday, Laura made a Gerson diet "cake" for lunch made of oats, and ground or shredded carrots and I'm not sure what stuck them together, with a plain yogurt "frosting" with maybe some kind of sweetener. It was so kind of her to do that! And another doctor, Dr. Martinez ordered a beautiful flower arrangement. The girl with me is Laura's daughter. She was so excited to celebrate my birthday!



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5/5/14

Hi my missionary son!!!

Your training with President Toone sounded really good!! I was looking at just the titles of the General Conference talks by the 1st presidency and the 12 and most of them have something to do with conversion in one form or another, like discipleship, faith, etc. There is definitely a message coming in loud and clear!

Billy sounds like he's had a pretty rough life! I hope he embraces the gospel! I know he will be forever changed if he does!

The sister missionaries came over on Tuesday night after dinner. Dad was home teaching and Emily disappeared up to her room, so it was just me and them. I think it turned into a ward missionary correlation meeting. :) I was asking how the work was going and they said it was all dried up. So I got on a roll and was talking about some of the principles in *The Power of Everyday Missionaries*. And they were saying that they wanted to do a missionary fireside for the ward, but didn't get any support from the ward leadership. They were told no one would come. Well I got on another roll and was popping ideas about marketing the fireside by saying things in the bulletin and on a poster something like: **WANT TO INCREASE THE SPIRIT IN YOUR HOME TO PROTECT YOUR CHILDREN? Come see how at the missionary fireside!** And then I brainstormed that you invite all the ward missionaries to take a principle or chapter from *The Power of Everyday Missionaries* and condense it into a powerful, motivating

3 minute presentation. That would be the fireside. And then ask like 40 families to bring dessert. :) Then you would have at least 40 families plus the ward missionaries there. And the ward missionaries would be putting their noses in the book and learning too! I was on fire! That just warmed me up though.

Then I started in on Elder Perry's instructions for the ward mission plan of 15 less active or investigators from the High Priest Group, Elder's Quorum, and Relief Society. I asked how that was going and they said the 15 names haven't changed since last October! Then I got really fired up!!! I think Damon did such a great job teaching me the vision of it! He said if it is fluid and the organizations understood that they are responsible for the list, to go visit them and invite them to take the missionary discussions. If they say yes, then get the appointment set up, maybe inviting a member of their organization to come to to fellowship. If they say no, then take them OFF the list and put a new one on. It should be in constant flux. Then at the ward council or PEC, the reporting should be 5 minutes max. The less actives would be warmly loved and fellowshipped by the members who know how to do that really well. Then the less actives will bring a bunch of investigators with them, because that is their circle of friends. Doing this would keep the missionaries soooo busy teaching!

It is a BRILLIANT plan. (Obviously, because the Holy Ghost, a member of the Godhead inspired Elder Perry or President Monson or someone about it!!!) And I heard that Elder Perry said this plan would not change and go forward into the Millennium. Anyway, so I was frustrated that I wasn't in the ward council to pound the vision into these people! And then I realized that DAD is in the ward council!! So right then he came home from home teaching and I shared with him and he said he was on board to teaching this and trying to get it rolling in our ward. The sisters were pretty excited about my ideas and they can't wait till we get back!:) It was fun!

I can't believe how intense this therapy is! I wake up before 7 and at 7 or before I have a nurse come into my room and give me a liver shot in my BUM! It's a bummer. haha And then I get a cup of coffee. :) That goes in the other end too as an enema and I hold it for 10 min and that's not fun either. At 8 we go down for breakfast of oatmeal with soaked dried fruit and raisins in it with a little sweetener. No milk. And a fresh squeezed glass of orange juice. And an herbal tea of several things that help my liver get healthy and shrink my tumors. I also have about 10 supplements to take. At 9 I get a glass of green juice and a liquid vitamin that's nasty. At 9:30 a glass of carrot and green apple juice with more supplements. I put the nebulizer on and breathe in a treatment. I also have a bag or two of therapies going in my port. At 10 a carrot juice with supplements. Anyway, there are other shots, but not every day. I will be doing 5 enemas a day, taking 30 something pills, 13 glasses of juice 2 nebulizer treatments and three bland meals a day. It just goes and goes.

I hope all is well! I am so proud of you and so grateful for all you are doing!!! Your serving is giving me so much strength!!! I pray all the time that I will be blessed and our family will be

blessed through your service and I know we are!!! Keep smiling and expect miracles! Know that I am praying for you!

Love,  
Mom

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5/5/14

Hi Damon!

I did have a short and funny conversation with Sister Newhouse that I want to share. When could I call?

The part Dad was talking about I wrote in detail to Taylor. I will copy my letter to him to you. I really was on a roll and that may have been what Sister Newhouse was talking about, but maybe it was the short conversation at the beginning she was referring to. I don't know.

Hi my missionary son!!!

Your training with President Toone sounded really good!! I was looking at just the titles of the General Conference talks by the 1st presidency and the 12 and most of them have something to do with conversion in one form or another, like discipleship, faith, etc. There is definitely a message coming in loud and clear!

Billy sounds like he's had a pretty rough life! I hope he embraces the gospel! I know he will be forever changed if he does!

The sister missionaries came over on Tuesday night after dinner. Dad was home teaching and Emily disappeared up to her room, so it was just me and them. I think it turned into a ward missionary correlation meeting. :) I was asking how the work was going and they said it was all dried up. So I got on a roll and was talking about some of the principles in *The Power of Everyday Missionaries*. And they were saying that they wanted to do a missionary fireside for the ward, but didn't get any support from the ward leadership. They were told no one would come. Well I got on another roll and was popping ideas about marketing the fireside by saying things in the bulletin and on a poster something like: **WANT TO INCREASE THE SPIRIT IN YOUR HOME TO PROTECT YOUR CHILDREN? Come see how at the missionary fireside!** And then I brainstormed that you invite all the ward missionaries to take a principle or chapter from *The Power of Everyday Missionaries* and condense it into a powerful, motivating 3 minute presentation. That would be the fireside. And then ask like 40 families to bring dessert. :) Then you would have at least 40 families plus the ward missionaries there. And the ward missionaries would be putting their noses in the book and learning too! I was on fire! That just warmed me up though.

Then I started in on Elder Perry's instructions for the ward mission plan of 15 less active or investigators from the High Priest Group, Elder's Quorum, and Relief Society. I asked how that was going and they said the 15 names haven't changed since last October! Then I got really fired up!!! I think Damon did such a great job teaching me the vision of it! He said if it is fluid and the organizations understood that they are responsible for the list, to go visit them and invite them to take the missionary discussions. If they say yes, then get the appointment set up, maybe inviting a member of their organization to come to to fellowship. If

they say no, then take them OFF the list and put a new one on. It should be in constant flux. Then at the ward council or PEC, the reporting should be 5 minutes max. The less actives would be warmly loved and fellowshipped by the members who know how to do that really well. Then the less actives will bring a bunch of investigators with them, because that is their circle of friends. Doing this would keep the missionaries soooo busy teaching!

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I hope all is well! I am so proud of you and so grateful for all you are doing!!! Your serving is giving me so much strength!!! I pray all the time that I will be blessed and our family will be blessed through your service and I know we are!!! Keep smiling and expect miracles! Know that I am praying for you!

Love,  
Mom

So just let me know what a good time to call is and I will try to work it in.  
Thanks, Mom

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5/5/14

Hi Heather!

Thank you for your birthday wishes!! I am in a condo that hasn't been getting wifi, and the house/clinic next door does, but when I go over there, I have treatments, meals and people are there talking and I have a hard time getting online and thinking and writing! So sorry I didn't reply till today. This schedule is so intense! I seem to be having to do something almost every minute of the day. But it's good.



The cook's daughter was so excited to celebrate my birthday. She got balloons and her mom made a "cake" and she brought it out. She made my day! I had 5 needle pokes that day, one of which was super painful I cried and then it opened a wave of emotion and I couldn't stop. The day doctor came up and took my hand and I think felt so bad that he ordered the beautiful flower arrangement for me for my birthday that Dad took a picture of.:)

Thank you for your sweet words! I love you so much and hope you are still doing good!!! You are my precious daughter!

Love, Mom

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5/12/14

Hi Taylor!!!

Thank you for your FB post! That was very sweet!!! IT WAS SOOOOOO GOOD TO SEE YOU AND TALK TO YOU YESTERDAY!!!!!!!!!!!!!! It was the highlight of my day!! You look so good, and you sound so good! I spoke with Damon last night and I think he would have loved to chat with you too. I feel bad! I should have seen if we could have done a conference call. He's just being a rock for me and doing what he can to influence and be there for Heather and Spencer, but I know he gets discouraged sometimes and would have loved to hear from a sibling that is strong in the gospel and excited about the things he is. Maybe at Christmas we can do something like a conference call!

I don't know what to say. Oh yes I do! So after talking with you I talked to Spencer. He is hanging out with a girl in the YSA ward and he posted a picture of him and her on FB. So Dad went on FB and clicked on her link. It went to her page and her banner picture is her with a few people and a few missionaries. And two of the missionaries are your ZL companions!! Her name is Sharlie Howe. This church is sooooo small! Everyone seems connected!

I love this quote by Orsen F. Whitney:

“No pain that we suffer, no trial that we experience is wasted. It ministers to our education, to the development of such qualities as patience, faith, fortitude and humility. All that we suffer and all that we endure, especially when we endure it patiently, builds up our characters, purifies our hearts, expands our souls, and makes us more tender and charitable, more worthy to be called the children of God . . . and it is through sorrow and suffering, toil and tribulation, that we gain the education that we come here to acquire and which will make us more like our Father and Mother in heaven.”

I'm reading Divine Signatures again while I lie on the bed holding my enemas each day. I read the above quote today and I just love it. I read it a few years ago and have drawn peace from it. It helps me by knowing there is a purpose for any of my sufferings. That doesn't take the pain away, but it helps me endure, knowing my pain isn't just random and meaningless.

But there is so much in life to be happy about and there is sorrow and suffering I haven't gone through that I probably won't go through, like never getting married, or not being able to have children, or a terrible divorce or stuff like that. I just take what is given to me and love it and feel gratitude for the Love of God that is manifest in my life in every way.

I am grateful to be here and for all the people who are taking care of me. Some of the patients here are getting a bit negative and that's too bad. When I first got here, the group of patients were more positive. I'm going to try to just be with Dad and Emily more.

I hope the work continues to explode in Maricopa! I am excited for May 24th for you and hope there are many baptisms on that great day!!! You are a great missionary. I'm sorry if I said anything to embarrass you in front of your companion. I didn't mean to. Your lively spirit energizes and motivates people and sometimes you get so into the moment you make memories for many people. That is a great quality of a leader and that is what I was trying to communicate by reminding you of some moments. It was to show how you can rally a group and get them excited. That is a unique gift that you have and something I LOVE about you!

You said you had something planned when you met your companions at the meeting, but then they threw the flag at you and wanted a picture. So that threw you off. What were you planning on doing? Just curious!

I love you Taylor! You mean so much to me. I can't imagine my life without you in it bringing with you such positive sunlight. You are totally welcome to share anything that may not be positive with me because then I would know to find ways to bolster you up. I'm so glad you are in a great companionship and are helping the many missionaries in your zone. And I'm glad you are having so much success in your area with people finding the truth and changing their lives for the better!

Have a super fantastic week my dear, dear, dear son!!!!!!

Love,  
Mom

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5/19/14

Hi Taylor!!!

I hope this email finds you happy and healthy! This week has been a long one for me! Each day is so similar to the one before and it's so long and there is so much I do that by the end of the day I am exhausted and feel like I accomplished a lot, even though I mostly sat around.

This is the schedule:

7:00 - a nurse comes in and gives me a shot in my bum. I take 4 supplements with peppermint tea and do a coffee enema

8:00 - breakfast (oatmeal with raisins and a type of sugar, a 6 oz glass of fresh-squeezed orange juice, and about 8 supplements  
9:00 - a green juice and a shot glass with a tablespoon of a nasty liquid vitamin. Also another enema.  
9:30 - an apple/carrot juice and supplements  
10:00 - an apple/carrot juice and supplements. A therapy using a nebulizer over my mouth  
11:00 - a carrot juice and supplements. IV treatments  
12:00 - a green juice and supplements  
1:00 - lunch with a carrot/apple juice and supplements. Lunch is Hippocrates Soup, some form of potatoes, green salad, and an over cooked vegetable  
2:00 - green juice with nasty liquid vitamin. Enema.  
3:00 - carrot juice with supplements  
4:00 - carrot juice with supplements  
5:00 - apple/carrot juice with supplements. Enema.  
6:00 - dinner with apple/carrot juice with supplements. Dinner is the same soup and a different form of potatoes and a green salad and different over cooked vegetables.  
7:00 - green juice with nasty liquid vitamin. Nebulizer treatment.

By around 7:30 to 8 I am done with all of it and can relax, call Grandma Scott, and hang out with Dad and Emily. By 9:30-10 I am so tired! I don't know why, but I am. Two days a week I get a shot of a dead vaccine called Colies in my arm. That sometimes makes me get chills and then a fever. My arm hurts in that spot and is tender for about 3 days. I also once a week get my blood drawn and they separate the white blood cells from the red blood cells and give me back the red later that day. Then for 3 days they increase a certain kind of white blood cell called the dendritics. After the 3 days, they put it back in me through an IV. So between all of the therapies and the juices and enemas and the food that is sometimes hard to eat, my body is getting pounded. I thought I would give you a detailed description of the treatment so you can visualize me and what I'm doing each day.

We were able to have a little religious discussion with a couple of ladies from England who are here and a guy from Texas and his mother who are here. The guy is Catholic and very devout, along with his mother, but they stayed at the dinner table as the two ladies asked Dad and I questions about the Church. The patient, Kareen, from England is Jewish, but not active in her faith. And her friend isn't any religion, but tends to favor Buddhist beliefs. We shared the First Vision and talked about prophets and apostles and The Book of Mormon, and talked about Grandma and Grandpa's conversion. I don't know how it affected them, but we did our best.

I have to lie on my bed for 12-15 minutes every time I do an enema, so I'm reading to pass the time. I have already read Divine Signatures (again. I have read it at least once before) It is so good! There is a chapter that is so applicable to you, I want to share it. I think I will print it when we get home and mail it to you. The gist is there was a mission president who decided to encourage his missionaries to not pass up hidden opportunities when an appointment falls

through or they get a no-show. When that happens, look around and follow the Spirit, because there will probably be someone else you are supposed to teach. He called them little miracles. And when the zone leaders called in to report each week, he would ask at the end if there were any little miracles they had had. They always had one. In the chapter he gives 4 examples. I'll send it to you! It's a really great message though!

Now I'm reading the Biography of Joseph Smith by his Mother. I've read it several times also, but I love how inspiring it is!!! So much adversity, so much faith and so many miracles! The gospel is true! The Lord's hand is in it and it is glorious in it's history, restoration, doctrine and impact on our lives. I love the gospel with all my heart and am so grateful that I was raised with it and have the knowledge that I have. I am so looking forward to teaching and preaching and serving missions with Dad! It is my great desire!

I love you so much Taylor!!!! You are such a blessing in my life!!!! I know you are where you should be and doing what you are doing!!! It gives me such peace of mind! Keep being the wonderful person you are and bringing light and salvation to the people of Maricopa! You are part of the greatest work that is on the earth! Keep smiling and expect those miracles!!!!

Love, Mom

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5/21/14

Kareen!! (a patient at the Gerson place Tiffany became good friends with)

You sweetheart!!! I am so sorry to hear about your last few days!!! You have been on my mind, and in my heart and prayers! Damon and I had a special prayer this morning again specifically for you, and in our family prayer today as well. I wish so much that we could do more!

The other day after Emily had had a very hungry day, I took her to Walmart and we got her some bread, peanut butter, jelly, and granola bars to supplement her diet here and she has been much happier. Although last night she said anytime she eats off the diet, her body responds negatively and things aren't tasting as good as they used to. So she is more on board with the Gerson diet than she thought she was going to be. Kind of interesting!

Damon's foot is slowly getting better. He is up and about again and hoping it continues to get better before we leave.

So I thought I would send you a comedy sketch from my favorite comedy group. I hope you enjoy it, and if you do, there are literally hours of more of the same from this group:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=reSS9WWHkd4>

I will try to come visit you today if you are up to seeing visitors! Know that you are in my constant thoughts and prayers!

Love,  
Tiffany

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5/25/14

Kareen,

I got your email 24 hours after you sent it and these past two days at home have been soooo busy, I haven't been able to get to my email. On Friday I never even got out of my pajamas!:) I am so glad you found the letter! Every word we meant with all our hearts! You are loved by our family so much and we are continuing to pray for you! I look so forward to hearing of your progress and in hearing how your book is going, when you get working on it! But that may be a little while as you adjust back to life at home.

So when we got home it was late, but I made a mad dash to the Whole Foods store to grab what I could to get us going the next day. On Friday, we started unpacking boxes and putting things in their place and setting up the juicer and making coffee and I put too much water in the oatmeal, so that it was runny. And then when I made the soup, it was too thick and I made a TON! My friend came over and it was great to see her, but it threw the schedule off a bit. I think we got in about 8 or 9 juices and 1 enema, but I made all three meals! I was exhausted and had to lie down twice and just fell right to sleep.

Yesterday was much better! I got all the green juice stuff washed and divided up into ziploc bags and cut and washed all the carrots for the day too and put those in a big gallon-sized bag. Damon made breakfast and the oatmeal was too thick this time, but I just added water and it was fine. I did all the juices and 3 enemas and Damon gave me a Colly's (sp?) shot and I vacuumed the house. It was a good day and I had a lot of energy, but I couldn't and shouldn't keep this up!! Tomorrow we are having the people come over that are going to help and we will try to train them. It should be interesting, kind of like the blind leading the blind!:) But I am so grateful to have the help!!!

Ok, so I have made potatoes where I cube them up and instead of onions on the bottom, I have the lemon juice from one lemon. Then I shake a little dill on top. Then I cover and cook on low for about 20-30 min. and it isn't too bad! Kind of tangy! And instead of onions under the veggies, I have just sliced a tomato and added a tiny bit of water. And that is working out pretty good too. But it's hard and Damon and I are having some emotional pain with the food and knowing it's so long term. It's one thing to eat at the clinic, but it's a whole other thing to eat this way at home where we have memories of good food and it's going to be an adjustment. But we just need to find ways to enjoy life without food being so important! Right?

I hope you travel safe and it is a good flight with no problems!!! Give Phil our love!!! You are in our thoughts and prayers and I would love an update on how your travels went and how you are adjusting back, but only when you have a free moment, which may be a while and I totally understand!!!

Till then, keep smiling your beautiful smile and know that we are thinking of you and cheering you on here in Katy, Texas!!!

Love,  
Tiffany

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6/3/14

Ariana, (Kareen's friend)

We got an email from Phil this morning with the news. I am so sorry!!!! She was such an amazing woman! I feel so blessed to have been able to meet her, and you!!! I wanted so badly for her to win this fight!!! I am glad she made it back home before passing away. That was her strongest desire I know. You were such a great friend, watching over her every need and advocating for her and keeping a smile on your face amid the anxiety for her. She was lucky to have such a friend as you!!!! I know she is at peace and in a beautiful place. I hope you are feeling some comfort and peace as well! I love you and hope the best for you!

Sending all my love from my heart to yours!

Tiffany

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6/9/14

Hi Taylor!!

You are sounding so good and it sounds like you just keep meeting wonderful people who are finding joy as they learn about the gospel! That is the most fulfilling feeling in the world I think! And then to see people stop learning or reject the glad news is pretty discouraging. But you are just doing so well and keeping an energetic, positive attitude that is awesome to see! I got an email with a picture of you in the bib and it was funny and great!!:) I loved it! You are being well cared for by the members!!

What a week for me!! I read Dad's letter to you and he summed it up, but WOW! It was a tough week! I was crying, feeling pain in my gall bladder and then we get a group email from one of the people who had come to the clinic in Mexico. She said that the stomach pain her partner had after three days at the clinic still hadn't gone away and so they went to the ER in Canada and her tumor had grown and she just started blasting the clinic and therapy and it

was a devastating email. So then the next day my energy dropped, my anxiety went sky high and then I was queasy and not wanting to eat the food and I was having tons of gas and even got a fever. Dad was super stressed. That night we read in the Gerson therapy book about healing reactions and every one of the symptoms I had was listed and it was supposed to happen after about week five of being on this intense therapy. So we totally calmed down and realized that was what was going on and then felt so glad that I was responding correctly!:) the next day I felt much better and each day I'm doing better. The next healing reactions should be at 3 months (August), 6 months (November), and 9 months (February). Each successive one will be longer and worse, so we just need to expect it and it will be easier to deal with.

Grandma Scott is coming out tomorrow to visit for at least a week maybe more. I am sooooo happy!!! I can't wait to see her! She helps me feel better just by her being here!! And maybe she can help our helpers be better helpers too, like maybe coming up with recipes that I like.:) one of the helpers is not getting some of the things and we are having a difficult time communicating. Dad spent a lot of time on Saturday with her walking step by step through some of the stuff, and he's still not sure she understands. She damaged our \$2500 juicer, so we have to be careful juicing until Dad gets a part replaced. Oh the adventure just keeps getting more adventurous!!:)

We had a high councilor speak in church yesterday. He sounded a little like a southern baptist preacher. He's black and spoke about the two great commandments and love, and then talked about the best way to love is to do missionary work. He said, "If you haven't invited someone you know to participate in something in the last three months, then shame on you... shame on you... shame on you." It was totally silent and I know uncomfortable. The Katy First ward had joined us because something had blown over at their building. Then he said, "In all the years I've been a member, I have hardly EVER seen a black member. I know you know someone who is black. And you might think they wouldn't want to hear the message. Well, shame on you... shame on you... shame on you!" And half the time he was crying and whispering his words. A very different high council talk. I appreciated his passion, and I did feel a surge of motivation to get out and just start talking to people. But the delivery was probably inappropriate. I found out after church an investigator was there and the sisters didn't think it went over very well with her.

Anyway, I'm not meaning to be negative, just share some extra dramatic stories to make my letter interesting.:)

I've been reading the Old Testament like crazy! This past week I read 1st Samuel, 2nd Samuel, 1st Kings and 2nd Kings. Now I'm on 1st Chronicles ch 10. These books remind me of Ether where it just briefly mentions the king's name, if he was wicked or righteous and maybe a story. And then at the end, they are destroyed because they turned away from the Lord, who would have preserved them if they just kept His commandments. It is truly amazing to me His long suffering with their wickedness! And is amazing to me how fast people can

become wicked and completely lost. And truly what a glorious time it is right now! The Lord wanted to give the Israelites the blessings of the temple and priesthood, but they rejected it right from the start. But WE have all the blessings, and we have so many faithful and converted members who are keeping covenants all over the world! And like Nephi saw in vision in 1Ne 14:14, "And it came to pass that I, Nephi, beheld the power of the Lamb of God, that it descended upon the saints of the church of the Lamb, and upon the covenant people of the Lord, who were scattered upon all the face of the earth; *and they were armed with righteousness and with the power of God in great glory.*"(italics mine)

That is from the priesthood and temple covenants and gift of the Holy Ghost. It is an incredible time in the history of the world; a time that all the prophets testified of, because we, the covenant people of the Lord won't forget Him and will literally prepare the world for His return. It warms my heart to think about that!

And that is what you are doing and that is what I'm trying to do in my own meager way too! I hope this next week you are able to be an instrument in the Lord's hands and change the eternal destiny of many of God's children! Children who want to be part of His eternal family by entering the gate through baptism and thereby receiving one of the greatest of God's gifts: the Holy Ghost. I hope you feel joy this week. True joy, and God's love for others and for you! And I hope you feel my deep, strong love for you too!!! You are such a choice son to me!!!

Love, Mom

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6/16/14

Hi Taylor!!!

Grandma is here and I just had Sister Dexter from Australia come visit and she just left so now you are probably writing to me!!!!

I will send a written letter to you, but I just want to encourage you right now! You are such a wonderful missionary and I am so proud of you!!! You are doing the best work in the world!!!!!!!!!!!!!! You are changing people's lives!!! And I am so grateful that you are trying your very best!!!

The Lord is so good and kind and we are just humans and His children muddling our way through this existence and keep turning away from Him and worshipping other things or "idols" and forget Him who created us and who wants to bless us if we just keep His commandments and He has glory to add on us beyond our understanding. But even though we turn away and even do all kinds of bad things, He will listen to us and rescue us and help us and fight our battles for us if we just turn back to Him and repent. He is so good!

I love you so much!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! I am giving you a BIG VIRTUAL HUG!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



Love,  
Mom

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6/23/14

Hi my sweet son!!!

I sent a package with a letter in it to you last week, but it may not have come yet. You may get it today and get two week old news after this letter. Sorry!:)YAY!! It's Monday and that means I get to hear from my boy!!!! I love Mondays!!! I hope your week went well! You are teaching so many people! How do you manage your time between your missionary stuff and your leadership stuff? It probably keeps you super busy!! Like a super monkey! :D

This last week was a roller coaster ride! I think I had another healing reaction, as the Gerson therapy talks about. I had a sharp pain right in the center of my stomach a couple of times and the food was so hard to eat. Then I was anxious again and so tired and kind of depressed. And this was when Grandma Scott was here. I had good moments too, though. One night I had a slight fever. Saturday Grandma flew home and that day I felt so much better and Sunday I felt good too and had more energy. This therapy is a real adventure!! I guess as we go through the ups and downs we will come to recognize what's happening better. Poor Dad! He gets so worried when I'm low.

Yesterday I taught in Relief Society and I think the lesson went pretty good. I felt the Spirit as people shared and that was my desire, that the Holy Ghost would be present and testify to the women and they would be strengthened and edified. My lesson was based on the talk by Elder Corbridge called "The Prophet Joseph Smith." I love that talk!! I have read it several times and listened to it several times. And each time I get more out of it.

I started with the end because so many times we spend all our lesson on less important stuff and then run out of time before we get to the best part. And the best part was when he testifies of Joseph Smith and says we don't have many options as to how and why he did all that he did. Either he was a pretender or a prophet. And either he did it all alone, or had the help of Heaven. It's so simple and the evidence is so overwhelming that Heaven was involved in everything he did!! I asked the women to share a time when they received a witness of the prophet Joseph Smith.

The next thing I focused on was how Joseph Smith prepared to pray in order to receive an answer to a question he desperately needed an answer to. We discussed the principles Elder Corbridge talked about and then applied and testified to how those same principles have helped us as we have sought answers from the Lord. There were several points made:

- a strong desire
- study over a long time

- not giving up till you get the answer
- sometimes the Lord doesn't give the answer all at once. Sometimes it's line upon line because we aren't ready spiritually or emotionally or cognitively yet.
- sometimes the answer is so much more than we guessed and we learn so much from Him

It was a good discussion. Never long enough for me and I went right up to the last minute taking the sister's comments. I love the pattern of leading a discussion where I get up and warm everyone up with the topic and then ask pointed questions, pray for the Spirit to be present in abundance and watch how we are led and taught!

The Hansen's had us over Saturday night and we visited and played a game and it was a lot of fun! I felt like a normal person for a while.:)

We decided to "let go" of one of the people that has been helping us. She just was not fully getting it and we were having some real communication problems. Emily is going to take her spot and we will see if she likes that. Otherwise we will hire someone else. Emily has been doing it on Sundays and is super good!!! We feel good about this. The other girl was really stressing us all out.

I hope your week is fantastic!!! I am so grateful you had a strong desire to serve and you wanted to be fully worthy to serve and did all you needed to do to make that happen happily, humbly and optimistically, and went into the field with confidence, vigor and vim (haha I love that phrase!:) ), and you haven't slowed down!! I already see the fruits in your life!!! Yesterday I saw Colter, Marcus and Daniel. Daniel is home because of a back injury that won't ever fully heal, so he was honorably released which was really sad for him. I know a month ago or so, Marcus got ordained to the Melchizedek priesthood, so that's great! He and Daniel are growing beards. Don't know if it's just a week's growth and they have been lazy in the grooming or if it's on purpose, but I'm anxious for Marcus to get on the mission and start having the transformation that you have been having!! And I think Coulter is still planning on going back out, but it's scary! I'm soooooooooooooooooo grateful for you!!!! Can I tell you that again????? I'M SOOOOOOOOOOOO GRATEFUL FOR YOU!!!!!!!!!!!! I love you soooooo much!!!!!!!!!!!!

Love Mom

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6/30/14

Hi!!!! (Taylor)

Your letter last week was wonderful as usual! Your story of President Toone was inspiring. The Lord is in our lives and we usually don't see it as plainly as that, but He is! The last night Dad and I were in Arizona, we had dinner at The Four Seasons with Brother and Sister Bowman. They were telling us about when he was bishop back in Kentucky and Elder

Bednar's son was in their ward. And occasionally Elder and Sister Bednar would come visit them and brother Bowman couldn't tell anyone and then they would show up at church and speak the whole time. Which was soooo cool!!! But he said that Elder Bednar would spend about 45 minutes with just him in his bishop's office, interviewing and counseling him. One thing he really emphasized was that there are no chance meetings with people. There's always a reason. He says that when he's sent somewhere on an assignment, he knows there is at least one person he is specifically sent to help or bless. And while he's there he'll be reorganizing a stake presidency and having lots of meetings. But in his mind, that's not the most important reason he's there. I thought that was so interesting.

This past week was tough but I got through it. I had a day where I had a fever and was in bed. I had a massive anxiety attack another day. But they both passed and there was much rejoicing.:) Dad and Emily are the best support in the world! I am so grateful for them!!! Each night when dinner is over and all of my therapy is done for the day, Dad, Emily and I try to do something fun. This week some of the things we did were watch I Love Lucy episodes, go on an hour drive down Cinco Ranch Blvd and around new developments, talk, and Saturday night we watched the movie "Newsies," a musical that the song "Seize the Day" came from that you did in show choir those many years ago. Last night we watched a couple of Mormon Messages and had a good conversation.

Daniella Martin in our ward (she's Emily's age and plays the harp) has been having health problems for a year but the family has been pretty quiet about it. But yesterday Dad made an announcement at their request, telling a few details and asking for the ward to fast this Sunday for her. She has a tumor on her spine. They don't know if it is cancerous, but she will be having surgery on it in a week or two. Emily wants to do something for her, so I suggested we sew a little lap quilt for her. Aunt Rita made the cutest lap quilt for me and I love it so much! It gives me a lot of comfort. Here's a picture:

The other side is that super duper soft fuzzy material that is pink with white polka dots.

So I think we will go get the stuff today and Emily can sew it together. That should be a fun outing and project!

I'm now in the book of Psalms in my reading the Old Testament. I'm in the 50's. But yesterday I read psalms 41 and this is what I read:

- 1 Blessed is he that considereth the poor: the Lord will deliver him in time of trouble.
- 2 The Lord will preserve him, and keep him alive; and he shall be blessed upon the earth: and thou wilt not deliver him unto the will of his enemies.
- 3 The Lord will strengthen him upon the bed of languishing: thou wilt make all his bed in his sickness.

(The footnote for the word "make" says "IE heal all his infirmities when he is sick")

It gives me even more reassurance that Heavenly Father is mindful of me and my desire to continue serving in this life. Dad and I have considered the poor our whole lives by paying a fast offering each month. As we have been blessed with more income we have increased our fast offering. And this last year or two we have sought for further blessings for our family by paying a massive fast offering each month. The Lord has turned right around and blessed us beyond abundant and then when we needed resources for my healing, it was right there. So I take comfort in this scripture and know He keeps His word, and I can testify to it! When I read it yesterday it was like a reassurance and a blessing. He is so good!

I hope your week is a very special one and full of miracles and sweet memories!! I know you are in the Lord's service. It is the best kind of work there is in the whole universe!:) keep being the best you can be and shine your light and smile!!! I love you so very, very, very much!!!! You are my precious boy!!!

Love,  
Mom

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7/7/14

Hello my boy!!!

As always I loved your letter! I'm glad everything I've sent arrived and worked out well! You sound so busy!! And happy, and I'm so glad!! How is your new companion and roommates? I assume you are still over the zone? Sister Riggs bore her testimony yesterday and said that Spencer, or Elder Riggs, was transferred and is now on a bike. She said, "and you that know him know that he is not small by any definition, and he is out all day on a bike in Arizona in 112 degree heat and telling me he is so happy and it's the bast life ever." :D I am so happy for him and I thought you'd like to hear that.

Auna and Ron had their second baby two days ago. A girl and her first name is Daisy. I don't have any other details yet, but I thought I'd pass on what I do know.

The treatment continues on. In two days I will have been doing this full time for ten weeks. I got a shot last night in my arm. I get those twice a week. But about a half hour afterwards I got massive chills for about twenty straight minutes, and then a really high fever for a half hour. It's a common reaction, but I haven't had such a strong one as that. But I think it was a good sign that my immune system is totally waking up and immediately recognized the foreign invader and got right to work eliminating it and hopefully did a lot on the tumors too! BURN BABY, BURN, BURN, BURN!!!!:)

But I feel really good today and I'm so grateful!! In August I am expecting a really strong healing reaction and am a little nervous about it. But in the meanwhile I am grateful for good days. And last week was a pretty good week. For the Fourth of July, we went to the ward

breakfast for a half an hour and that was fun, just visiting with people. And in the afternoon Emily, Dad and I went to the park behind our house and ate snacks. (I ate organic cantaloupe and grapes) and we played a game. Then that night we went over by La Centera and parked in the junior high parking lot to watch fireworks. Can you believe it, it rained and thundered?!! And the temp dropped to 75 degrees! But the show went on! We left after 5 minutes because Dad didn't want to get stuck in traffic and have me breathing all the fumes.:) so we saw that Sprouts parking lot was empty and there was still a good view, so we watched the last five minutes of the show. It was a good day and felt a little like a holiday even though I still had to eat the same food. How was your 4th? I'm sure you got some great food! Did you do any teaching or finding or was it like Christmas?

I was so unintelligent yesterday! I took my purse along with my Sunday bag to church. Normally I put my wallet and key in the Sunday bag to save more stuff to carry. But I just grabbed my purse. Well, when I got to the church I didn't want to carry everything, so I left my purse in the car and didn't lock the doors because the key was in my purse and wouldn't let me lock it. I was a couple of minutes late, so I just ran in. When I came out 3 1/2 hours later, someone had gone through the car and my purse and had taken my wallet. Luckily they didn't take the car!! Dad told me later someone else had their window smashed and their purse taken. So I guess I am thankful I had the doors unlocked!:) lesson learned though! I'm so trusting and I guess I shouldn't be. Bummer!

We finished The Book of Mormon as a family again. Finally!! We started it back when Elder Bednar came and asked us to find all the "in the strength of the Lord" references. THAT took a while!! So instead of starting over, we decided we are going to go through Preach My Gospel and do the scripture study sections in each chapter and discuss the questions. So far it's been good! Our stake presidency has asked the stake to use Family Home Evening this summer to focus on Preach My Gospel, and they have outlined which chapter to study which week. We are a couple of weeks behind because we got the announcement late because of our trip to Mexico. But we are trying to follow their council. There is so much in each chapter that to do a lesson in FHE, it just highlights the main points. But each of us has taught at least one lesson and that's who gets the most out of it, right? It is good too to get an overview, and now doing the scripture study and questions for family scripture, we will get more into it.

The gospel is true, and the Savior leads and guides the church through President Monson. The work is rolling forward and you are part of it! I'm so grateful you are on the Lord's side and converted! These days are not for the summer soldier!! (Although when Thomas Paine wrote "The American Crisiis" I don't think he had ever been to either Arizona or Houston in the summer!!!:) ) I am not sure if you know what I'm referring to, so in the spirit of the Fourth of July, I found a nice article that summarizes the history and the then I will give the famous document to you.

During the 1770's, as the American revolution developed, soldiers who joined the Continental Army during the spring or summer but went AWOL in the fall or winter were known as "summer soldiers".

Many of the "summer soldiers" were farmers who would join up with the Army when their crops were planted, fight during the summer, and then go back home in the fall to help with the harvest.

Others would stay with the Army through the harvest, but sneak off in the middle of the night once the weather got cold.

Meanwhile, the people who supported the revolutionaries when the revolution was going well -- but not otherwise -- were called "sunshine patriots".

So in the famous passage from "The Crisis" where Thomas Paine wrote:  
The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of their country  
he was talking -- quite literally in the former case -- about the fair-weather friends of the Revolution.

*The American Crisis* is a collection of articles written by Thomas Paine during the American Revolutionary War. In 1776 Paine wrote *Common Sense*, an extremely popular and successful pamphlet arguing for Independence from England. The essays collected here constitute Paine's ongoing support for an independent and self-governing America through the many severe crises of the Revolutionary War. General Washington found the first essay so inspiring, he ordered that it be read to the troops at Valley Forge.

Here is just the first paragraph:

THESE are the times that try men's souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of their country; but he that stands by it now, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman. Tyranny, like hell, is not easily conquered; yet we have this consolation with us, that the harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph. What we obtain too cheap, we esteem too lightly: it is dearness only that gives every thing its value. Heaven knows how to put a proper price upon its goods; and it would be strange indeed if so celestial an article as FREEDOM should not be highly rated. Britain, with an army to enforce her tyranny, has declared that she has a right (not only to TAX) but "to BIND us in ALL CASES WHATSOEVER" and if being bound in that manner, is not slavery, then is there not such a thing as slavery upon earth. Even the expression is impious; for so unlimited a power can belong only to God.

Ok, so there's a little patriotism for you! But the conflict we are in in these last days is very similar! As he says, "hell is not easily conquered. The adversary wants us to be HIS slaves and under his tyranny FOREVER! And these days and the ones ahead require more of us. More faith, more commitment, more obedience, more holiness, which will give us more power to overcome and prepare the world for the Savior's coming. And I love how his line "the harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph. What we obtain too cheap, we esteem too lightly: it is dearness

only that gives every thing its value" goes right along with being converted and the price of enduring to the end and the price of discipleship.

So keep smiling and testifying and serving and loving and teaching and inviting and baptizing and strengthening! I love you so much I can hardly contain it! Usually when I think of you I am full to bursting and sometimes it comes out in tears how grateful I am for you! I thank Heavenly Father every day for you!!! Know that I'm praying for you and thinking of you and hoping for you to have wonderful, amazing experiences that draws you ever closer to Heavenly Father and His beloved Son, Jesus Christ, who you are an emissary of!

Love,  
Mom

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7/14/14

Hello my son!!!

I hope all is well! You are always in my thoughts! I'm glad you are enjoying your companionship!! As you said, President Toone gives you great companions!! I think you decided before your mission though, that all of your companions were going to be awesome and that has affected how you see them! That can also make a difference!

Elder Wright's mom made friends with me on Facebook. She thinks you were comps with him and I'm not remembering. I went back through some of your letters and saw you went on exchanges with him and he had to go somewhere to get a brain freeze.:) she said she saw something you posted and saw that Victoria Craig liked it. They knew the Craig's well when the Craig's were in North Carolina. Small world, huh? She said Elder Wright and Logan were friends.

Emily was having a hard time working for us so Dad sent an email out through Susan Comb's email and asked if anyone was interested. We got a few responses, but the first was Lauren Riggs. She came over on Saturday to do some training and I was a little worried before she came, but I think she's going to do really well! She picked it right up, was very conscientious and friendly. She said that you had run into Elder Riggs at the temple and he had sent a picture to them. So she texted me the pic and it was so great to see the two of you!! You hadn't mentioned seeing him so I was excited to hear!

There was a little sending off party at Barbara Anderson's last week that I popped in for a few minute and I got the impression that part of Markus' delay is a social anxiety. That could just be mother talk, but I know that's a real road block for some. I know Christian Wilson has it pretty bad.

Last week I had a few rough days and a few pretty great days. Yesterday I had a lot of sharp pains like gas pains throughout the day. I weathered through them accepting them as they came and it felt like I was having labor pains after a while because they came and went like labor pains. Dad gave me a blessing around noon and it was beautiful and comforting. One of the things he said was that I would feel strength through those that were praying for me. Later on I got a text from Aunt Amy that said Daniel had given the opening prayer in Primary that day and he wanted to do it by himself. And "of course he said,"bless Aunt Tiffany that she will get better."" :) and then she said that their home teachers were over that day and asked if they had something they could pray for and Amy asked if he could pray for me. I am so grateful!!! The texts came in in increments and each one Dad read to me and I cried. I am so humbled by people who pray for me!! I feel the love and it gives me strength. It was neat to get that text on the day Dad said that in his blessing!

He also commanded my body to heal which he's never done, so that was cool!

This week I have prayed the words of the hymn I Need Thee Every Hour many times a day. It brings comfort and strength too. This therapy is so demanding and so much of it isn't pleasant. But I am so spoiled in my life that I needed this to learn that life isn't about having fun or always being comfortable.:)

But even in spite of discomfort, I watched Napoleon Dynamite (my lips hurt real bad!) and a couple of other movies, went on a nice walk around the neighborhood with Dad, put a birthday package together with Emily for Damon, had a great writing group, went to Barbara Anderson's, listened to Denise Killingsworth talk about her struggles for two hours, talked on the phone with Amy, John, and Damon, shopped with Emily at Target for a Star Wars t-shirt for a sci-fi dance, and many other happy things this week. (Well, the phone call with Sister Killingsworth wasn't happy, but I was happy I was in a strong place that day to be able to help her)

I hope your week goes super and you can feel my love pouring all over you! You are amazing and I love you!! Keep smiling and loving! Miracles are an every day thing in missionary work because it is the Lord's work. And He is a God of miracles! I love you, I love you, and I'm cheering for you here in Katy, Texas!!! Yee ha!!!

Love, Mom

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7/16/14

Heather,

I know I haven't talked with you in a while. I've been in a crazy bubble with this therapy and it's been pretty tough! It's the hardest thing I've done in my life.



But I want you to know you are always in my thoughts and always and forever in my heart!! I just want you to know how much I love you! You are my precious jewel! I miss you.

Love,  
Mom

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7/20/14

Hi! (Heather)

The therapy is going fine and I believe it's helping. It takes time so it's a learning experience in patience! Eating the meals is the hardest part because it's so monotonous. The same thing every day. Now if it was lasagna or tacos or whole wheat bread, it would be easy peasy! But overcooked veggies and a vegetable soup that doesn't taste good and potatoes just don't get me looking forward to the next meal.

But I'm doing it and I've almost done it 12 weeks now. The therapy says to expect a pretty big healing reaction at three months so I'm bracing for it. I've had some healing reactions already where I have extra gas, chills, fever, queasiness, food aversion, tiredness, depression, anxiety, emotional. So those are some things to expect, only maybe for longer and stronger. Also they say that if you've had chemo, at the three month healing reaction, the chemo may start dumping into your system from your cells and you can have some of the same side effects as you had when you got chemo, which I didn't really have any, but who knows on this time.

So it's an adventure for sure! I hope all is well with you! I love you so very much!!!



Mom

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7/21/14

Hi my precious son!!

How are you?!! You sound so good and I'm glad there is so much happening and you are doing wonderful things to bless investigators, missionaries and members!! You have a special way of doing that!!

Your training at zone conference sounded awesome! I loved the burning boat idea!! I am teaching Relief Society this week and it is supposed to be based on the General Conference talk "Your Four Minutes." The Seventy who gave the talk spoke about the Olympics and the LDS athletes that had four one-minute runs that they had prepared years for. Then he

compared it to our life and how we prepared for this life for ages and now we are here for such a short time. He talked about getting the ordinances we need, but I want to focus more on what do we want to make of our lives while we are here. What really matters in life and as a daughter of a God, are we living like one and doing things that really make our living here matter, and if not, what is holding us back? It's very similar to your zone conference message!

This past week was pretty good. Wednesday Jen Hansen invited me to see a movie called "America." It's a documentary that is super good! Dad and I went and it was fun to get out and go somewhere! I feel a bit cooped up with this therapy which is a very common "ailment" of the therapy. Saturday night Dad, Emily and I watched a YouTube video documentary about Mother Teresa. It was super good and really inspiring. I have a greater desire to show God's love in all my words and actions. Right now I can't do a lot, but I can write encouraging notes to people, so I'm going to start with that and see what else I feel prompted to do. Back to the lesson I'm giving, it just seems that a daughter of a God should be doing more of His work than worrying about her looks or about Facebook or Pinterest. I really don't know what fills women's days, but I know there are people who are suffering in one way or another and I want to be lifting up the feeble knees and cheering hearts and doing what President Monson has been encouraging us to do!

Emily gave Kitty a very thorough grooming and enlisted Dad's help for holding the kitty up to get at her stomach. Here is a picture. They have plastic bags on to keep from getting her fur all over them. Haha! The kitty really shrunk!

In a couple of weeks Grandma Scott is coming to be with us for about ten days! I'm so happy!! She bought another puzzle that she will bring for us to do and we will probably do more cross stitching again too! And Damon is going to try to come out for a couple of weeks in August! More to look forward to!

I am reading in Proverbs now and it is so good! I wish we had studied them in homeschool! Maybe written them for handwriting practice, memorized some of the words of wisdom and planted them in all of your hearts! :) I've only read through the sixth proverb, but I feel all his words so keenly! Solomon is giving these words of wisdom to his son and you can hear his pleading for his son to stay on the right path and not veer out of the straight way. It's really good! I am really enjoying reading the Old Testament! I have learned so much!

I hope this upcoming week has marvelous experiences for you!!! The Lord will provide them as you put your faith in Him and act upon that faith. If you know what He wants you to do, even if it seems impossible, go forward in faith and the Red Sea will part, and the doors will open. He will fight our battles, He has all power unto the fulfilling of all his words. Here is a parting quote from President Uchdorf in his talk "The Infinite Power of Hope" (which is super good and I recommend it!):

Embrace and rely upon the Hope of Israel, for the love of the Son of God pierces all darkness, softens all sorrow, and gladdens every heart.

I love you so much Taylor!! You light up my life and bring me much joy!! Thank you for being who you are and giving me reason to rejoice in my posterity! You are so so dear to me!!

Love, Mom

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7/23/14

Hi! (Heather)

It sounds like you are doing really well! I hope your new job goes super! I'm so proud of all you've accomplished this year!! I hope this next one is even more amazing!

I do get to leave the house if I feel up to it. I have windows of time where my only therapy in an hour is a juice. So like at 11:00 I can jet out for an hour like to Target or do something with Emily. I can also do that at 12:00, 3:00, and 4:00. Then at 7:00 if I have stayed on schedule, I get my last juice of the day and I'm free! Usually I stick at home, but we've gone for drives sometimes and Jen Hansen invited me to a movie last week, but mostly we watch a movie at home or sit around and talk.

There's no cheating on the diet and I've been perfect (except for the sacrament bread:) ). I like thinking about food that I miss. It doesn't really bother me to do that. Maybe it's like prisoners of war that think about food they like and it helps them feel happy or something. :) At twelve weeks on the therapy (which is tomorrow!) I get to eat one slice of organic rye bread after my other food is eaten. I will eat it at night which is when I'm hungriest. So it is a milestone I've been looking forward to! I will toast it and drizzle a little flax oil and a tiny bit of honey on it.

That is mostly my life right now, but one thing that is fun is every Wednesday at 10:30, a few ladies come over for a writing group. We are writing from prompts about our lives and it has been a lot of fun! We did this a few years ago and we started it back up at Jana McClain's suggestion. So she comes and Sue Brown, Rachel Frame, Carolee Weber, Sarah deGraff, Jan Swope, and Mary Tait have come, some more than others. But we always have a good time and it's something I look forward to!

I started reading the Old Testament last November or so and I've had so much sitting around that I'm already in Proverbs. I'm actually really enjoying the whole thing and I've learned a lot! I've never read the Old Testament before and some books like Psalms and Proverbs I've never hardly touched, so it's pretty cool!

I love you so much!! Sending a big hug to you!! I think about you all the time, every single day! May your day today be full of sunshine and Heaven's love!!!

Love,

Mom

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7/28/14

Hi Elder Janis!!!!

How are you? How was your week? I hope it was pretty amazing!! I'm so glad Spencer has been coming to the devotionals!!

I'm so happy for Moose! I'm sure that was one of the greatest highlights of your mission!!!

This past week was good! Dad had an impression three times that Emily needed to go to Nauvoo which is this year's Stake Youth Conference. (Talk about a massive undertaking! It makes Moroni's Quest and Trek seem easy!) So he talked with her and on faith in Dad's prompting she decided to go. So this past week we've been getting ready by buying a few clothes and other things. She's been really anxious, but last night I talked with her and Dad had given her a blessing a few nights earlier and she woke up this morning at peace. I'm so grateful!! I really hope she has an amazing time! She leaves in a 1/2 hour!

I taught in Relief Society yesterday and I had read the talk my lesson was about called "Your Four Minutes" many times, and I had some ideas. But something was missing and I wasn't feeling like I was getting a confirmation from the Spirit on my direction. Plus I didn't have a very good attitude about the talk. So I prayed yesterday morning and tried to listen. I picked up the Ensign for this month that I had been reading the past couple of days. I was in the middle of an outstanding article by Elder Christofferson called Why We Share the Gospel. So I picked up where I left off and something in the article, which was all about inviting people to come unto Christ, clicked! I realized right then that without saying those words, that is what the essence of Your Four Minutes was all about! He was inviting the youth and single adults to come unto Christ and that if they showed faith, they would repent and receive precious ordinances that would perfect them. Then the talk and my lesson came together. I knew that I needed to invite all the women in Relief Society to come unto Christ, because, like Alma said, "And now behold, I say unto you, my brethren, if ye have experienced a change of heart, and if ye have felt to sing the song of redeeming love, I would ask, can ye feel so now?" We all need to come unto Christ every day. And as we do, He will show us what we should do and he will guide our lives and help us navigate through this crazy life.

I told the sisters about a date I went on with Dad when I was 16. We went skiing and it was my first time. I went down the bunny slope a few times and then he suggested going down a little harder slope. So I said ok. So we went up the ski lift and I got off and pointed the skis down, pushed and started gaining speed and bulleted down the slope out of control and hoping nobody or nothing would get in my way. Of course there was a man down right in my path and I barrelled right into him! I barely remember that, so I probably apologized and kept

speeding downhill till I finished the run. I told the story because Your Four Minutes is talking about the Olympics. So I did my own analogy about how if we try to go alone, and don't come unto Christ, it's like me on the ski slope. Much better to stop at checkpoints, get our ordinances and follow the Savior!

Anyway, I am so thankful I got the inspiration. It was a tender mercy and I felt led by the Holy Ghost in my lesson. The sisters really responded and we had an awesome discussion!

I know that this is the whole purpose of your life right now: inviting others to come unto Christ, and actually, that is the theme for the YM and YW this year taken from the scripture in Moroni 10:32 Yea, come unto Christ, and be perfected in him, and deny yourselves of all ungodliness; and if ye shall deny yourselves of all ungodliness, and love God with all your might, mind and strength, then is his grace sufficient for you, that by his grace ye may be perfect in Christ; and if by the grace of God ye are perfect in Christ, ye can in nowise deny the power of God.

I love you so much Taylor!!! You are doing a marvelous work and a wonder! As Elder Christofferson said, "internalize the purpose of bringing people to Christ through the principles and ordinances of the restored gospel, and you will understand that sharing the gospel is not a program; it is a cause - the cause of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit." You are participating in the greatest cause of all, because of whose cause it is!!!! I know you feel it and you have internalized it and you are a powerful instrument in His hands!

Carry on, carry on, carry on!!! Smile, expect miracles, and know I am cheering you on!!!!

Love,  
Mom

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8/4/14

Hello Elder Janis!!!!

You sound wonderful from last week's letter! I hope the couple you found on the remote dirt road continues to progress and find joy in the gospel! I loved that story!!

So sorry to hear about the elder who is struggling! That is heart breaking! I know. I have a son who was in a similar position. I'm still praying and not giving up on his return to the field. I may be the only one in this world who still has that strong hope and faith, (except maybe Grandma Janis:) ) but I'm praying daily for him and for the Lord's will.

This past week was pretty good. With Emily being gone it was quieter and I didn't have any visitors and Dad was distracted with work problems, so it was a little lonely, but it was all good, and now Emily is back, Grandma Scott is here and Damon comes tomorrow. So life is

really great! It was great before too, just with less people.:) It's interesting how we can look at our circumstances and think of people who have so many things going well and we can start feeling sorry for ourselves, and then if we think of other people or situations in history, we can start to feel so blessed! I mean, I am not a prisoner of war being tortured and living in a pit in the jungles of Viet Nam! I have a very nice bed, and people taking care of me all day and a fantastic husband who loves me and is doing everything in the world he can for my well being and comfort, a very supportive network of family and friends, etc, etc, etc!! Perspective!

Aunt Becky sent me a link this week to the movie "Joseph Smith the Prophet of the Restoration" and I watched it. I've seen it before, but this time it gave me more appreciation for the comforts I have and the relatively few trials I have had in my life. His and Emma's were almost constant. And they weren't small either! Again, that perspective really helps!

Well I made it to the 3 month mark and I get to eat a piece of rye bread each day. Dad ordered 12 loaves from a company that our clinic recommended and the order came a few days ago. It wasn't as tasty as I had hoped and so I've got to figure out how to make it taste better or figure out a recipe that tastes better but still is within the guidelines. Grandma is wanting to do some experimenting.

The night Grandma came I thought it would be fun to watch the movie "You Can't Take It With You." Do you remember it? It has Jimmy Stewart who played in "It's a Wonderful Life." It's black and white. We started it, but Grandma started dozing off so we'll wait till Damon comes and watch it then. But one of my favorite lines is by this little timid man who runs a counting machine named Mr Potter. The grandfather of the crazy family invites him to come stay at their house. Mr. Potter asks who takes care of them and the grandfather tells him it's the same One who takes care of the lilies of the field. So as the grandfather is getting on the elevator, Mr Potter quits his job and runs to catch the elevator. As he gets in he turns to the grandfather and says, "The die is cast. I'm a lily!" :D

I rely on the Lord every day and I know you do too!!! He really does take care of us as we trust in Him. And as we do, we watch how He blesses us and shows us His love and mercy. And all things will work for our best good! Keep praying, serving, loving, blessing, smiling, and expecting miracles! His hand is in this work, and you are his instrument!!

I love you so much and sing hallelujah when I think of you serving!!! Have a wonderfully fantastic week my very dear son!!!!

Love, Mom

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8/11/14

I was reading what I had written and accidentally hit the send button. Sorry! So I just want to tell you how much you strengthen me and give me happiness! You are an amazing example

of staying positive no matter what is going on. I know you have had many challenges, yet you don't really let it show on the outside, and you try to see the positive to pick yourself up! I REALLY ADMIRE YOU!! That is a real gift that you have and you have worked to develop that gift!

Stay strong, smile, expect miracles, and know your mother is praying for you, believes in you and loves you with all her heart!!!!

♥Mom

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8/12/14

Hi Heather!

Thanks for the update! I hope your training is going well! I totally see you decorating your desk right away!:) Sounds like a good job! I'm glad!

I've been going through a healing reaction, which is expected right now, at the 3 month mark. So I haven't been feeling the best, but I have some days that aren't so bad and some that I'm glad when they're done! It has been wonderful having Damon and Grandma Scott here. Grandma left today. This weekend was crazy! On Saturday was a Lifestyles company party at Dell's house. (He's the company president) They went all out!! They had a camera crew there taking video and pictures to do a promotional video, a restaurant that catered and brought a brick oven and they were cranking out personal pizzas, a trailer with video games in it, a blow up zip line, a human hamster ball, a mechanical bull, a bunch of arcade games, and their beautiful pool. We weren't really interested in all the activities, but everyone enjoyed the food. We were only there for about an hour and a half. I took an extra juice and a couple of apricots to eat. Then we came home and I rested and then we went to Stake Conference and I bore my testimony. Then we went home and Ethan and his new wife, Sarah, came over with Brandon to visit. They came to town to go on a cruise. Dad bought a big bag of boiled crawfish, so they sat around eating those and piling their plates high with the crawfish. It reminded me a little of Risky's Barbecue and all the bones piled high. So I was still full of energy at 10:00 that night and Dad was amazed, because I've mostly been hunkering down the last couple of weeks riding out this relatively easy healing reaction, wearing pjs all day, etc.

Then the next day I went to Stake Conference and felt great and afterwards talked to several people and then went home. We got back on schedule and Dad and I had a nice talk together, and then I started feeling some sharp gas pains that I had a few weeks ago during my last healing reaction. So for the next two hours, I just dealt with that. They subsided and I started eating dinner. I was about half done when the pains came back worse. I went to the couch and sat down with a pillow and blanket. I was breathing fast and closing my eyes and praying and just hurting. Everyone felt so helpless. Someone suggested a blessing and I always accept those! So Dad anointed and Damon started the blessing. In the middle, I realized I was going to throw up. So I blurted, "Mom, get a pan." Damon kept blessing and Grandma went to the kitchen as I tried not to throw up. She came back with a post it note pad and a pen. I said, "No, a pan." So Damon ended the prayer, Dad ran to the kitchen and grabbed something and got it under my mouth in time. Do you remember how we tease Dad about how he says pin and pen? Now we can add pan to the list!:) but he knew what I

was saying. Grandma thought I wanted her to write down what Damon was blessing me with.:) I think it's so funny!! My pains gradually calmed down over the next hour and I was able to sleep perfectly well. I may have a similar thing happen a couple more times, but I know they go away and it isn't scary because I'm almost positive it's part of the healing reaction. I think it may be some pretty toxic stuff that gets into my intestines and they are dealing with it. It could be some chemo dumping, so I just have to deal with it and it will go away eventually. But I seem to be responding well to the therapy. Everything the book is talking about, is what is going on with me, so I'm very hopeful I'm going to heal.

I haven't had any tumor marker tests or scans, and probably won't for a few more months. I've had a lot of radiation, so we want to be more conservative on how many I get. Plus I think if we get them too soon, we won't see as much progress as we will in a few months. The tests have had us on an emotional roller coaster ride, so we got off the ride for a while.

I hope you have a beautiful day, my beautiful daughter! I love you so much!!!

Love, Mom

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8/18/14

Hello my wonderful son!!!!

I hope today finds you very happy!! I hope your new area and new companion are loving you as I know you are loving them!! Truly, how was this past week? If you want to share anything with me that doesn't go on the blog, don't worry! I want to support you and help you as much as I can! But you are probably doing great!

This has been a rather tough week for me, as the healing reaction has continued and the toxins are still dumping out into my system and then out of me. Eating the food has been the hardest, because I've felt nauseous around food and especially this food. I feel bad for Damon as he's watched me just try to eat and struggle over the food. But I'm grateful for this therapy (or I WILL be grateful :) ). It is such a refining experience. And there are many blessings I have. Just the fact that we have help with the therapy 12 hours a day and are able to afford it is HUGE! I feel privileged and almost guilty sometimes that I'm like treated like royalty. So as much as I complain and have pity parties, I know how blessed I am.

I saw this Youtube video that had three missionaries singing "When I Am Baptized" (or I like to look for rainbows) with a ukulele and it was so cool!!! I don't know if you can watch it. This is the link. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2eHBXSqSa5U> Maybe a member could show it to you in their home if you gave them the address? Does your companion like to sing? I could send your ukulele if you want. There was another one of just two of the same elders singing "Come Follow Me." It was also very good. Anyway, just thought of you when I saw it!)

Whitney's dog, Pugs, died a few weeks ago and they just got two pug puppies. They are brothers and she sent us a picture:





Whitney said, "So... We got our puppies today! They are soooo cute and playful :) Here's a picture of them all tired after all the playing we did this morning." So Amy asked, "What do the boys think of them?" and Whitney said, "Ethan loves them!!! The verdict is still out with Mason. They have kind of sharp claws still, so he doesn't like that. But they are so cute and playful, the boys are going to get so attached to them." Then Amy asked, "What are their names?" and Whitney said, "K, so it might not make sense.. But their names are Asterix and Obelix. They are from a French cartoon about the Romans. Ehtan has a comic book and a few games of theirs. But it'll be fun to shorten their names to Trix and Lix!" Anyway, I thought you might be interested in that.:)

Ethan and Tommy are going to the same elementary school and they just started this past week. Ethan is in Kindergarten and Tommy is in 1st grade. Whitney got a picture of them after their first day of school. Aren't they so cute? I think Tommy looks a lot like you did at that age in this picture.



Well, I hope you have a great week!!! You are a wonderful son and a wonderful missionary! The Lord is pleased with you and He has confidence in you. He doesn't expect you to do everything by yourself though. He is there, ALWAYS, to strengthen and enable you to do His work beyond your own abilities and capacities. Rely on Him. I love you so much. I am so proud of you and grateful for you! The gospel is true. I pray for you. Keep smiling!

Love, Mom

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8/23/14

Hi Heather!

I hope your job is getting more into a routine now that you've been at it for a week! I'm glad you have a space to call your own! I'm glad you got to see Alissa and her kids! That's great!

It was nice having Damon here. He and Emily were able to get out and do a few things which I'm glad about. I was going through a healing reaction the whole time he was here though, so I wasn't that great to be around. I did a lot of moaning and stayed in my pjs most of the time and had wild hair.:) But he was loving and supportive.

The past couple of days I feel a little more like myself. In fact, yesterday I showered for the first time in a few days and after I felt so happy I put on my yellow shirt that makes me look like a Despicable Me minion, played the song Happy on my phone and danced a little.:) I went in the office where Dad was and played it again and did a happy dance. He was surprised and didn't know what to think.:)

I've still got to take it easy though. Healing takes a lot of energy so I still need to rest but I do think I'm coming out of the healing reaction which I'm grateful for.

I know things are still tough for you, but I'm so proud of your positive attitude and your working and overcoming so much!! I hope you have a wonderful day and week! I love you so so much!!!!

Love, Mom

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8/25/14

Hi Taylor!

I was so glad to hear you are doing so well with your companion! I hope this last week was positive too! You are such a great guy, who WOULDN'T want to be companions with you!!!:) I would! I would!

So last week I sent a letter right around the time you sent yours to me, so I don't know if you got it. Also, I put a link to a video, which you probably aren't allowed to see, but I don't know if the email was just totally blocked because I put the link in. So if you didn't get my letter, I will resend it without the link. Sorry about any mix-ups!

Brother Swope, your scout and YM leader was at church yesterday and we talked briefly with him and he says he really enjoys your facebook posts and thinks you are such a great guy, which we of course know.:) It was good to see him. He really is the kind of leader every young man needs! I know he had a very good impact on you.

Last week as the week progressed I started feeling a little better. On Friday morning I had more energy than I've had in a while, and I just felt happy. So I have a yellow shirt that makes you look like a minion from Despicable Me. So I put that on and played a song that is from Despicable Me 2 called "Happy." It is catchy and I started to dance. I even went in the office where Dad was and turned the song on and started dancing. He didn't know what to do. He didn't want me to overexert myself. But it felt so good to be moving and happy!:) I felt so good that I worked on a package for you and got it sent! It should come by Wednesday.

Since then, I have been doing pretty good. I felt good yesterday and gave a lesson in Relief Society. I'm so grateful that I was up to it! Hopefully my 3 month healing reaction is coming to an end and I can have a bit of a break before the next one hits.

So this book I've read called The Hidden Christ, in the chapter about Proverbs, it is pretty cool! In the fourth chapter seventh verse it talks about how wisdom is the principle thing. And you might think, well what about charity or something. And then Solomon talks about wisdom and personifies her and tells throughout Proverbs Wisdom's characteristics. Well, if you look at it, it is Christ.

And then in chapter 7, Solomon tells his son a story about a young man going to her (Wisdom's) doorstep, but gets seduced by Folly, portrayed as a harlot, which if you look at all of her characteristics, is Satan. And the message that Solomon gives to his son is to stay with Wisdom. Basically have a Christ-focused home. It's pretty cool. Then in chapter 8, Wisdom is again characterized and is so opposite Folly. It's a cool "riddle" which is the "dark sayings" that Solomon talks about in chapter 1 verse 6. Anyway, I don't know if that made ANY sense!:)

I love you so so so so so much!!!!!!!!!!!!!! I think about you every day and pray for you and hope all is well and you are learning and growing and staying full of faith. Have a super wonderful week and look for the package and you may need to stick it in the fridge as a heads up!:) Keep smiling and expect miracles!!!!

Love, Mom

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9/1/14

(Heather)

Sorry for taking so long! I have had the hardest week ever!!! I thought it was over, but NO! On Tuesday night I got a vaccine shot that I've been getting 2x a week since I went to Mexico. The vile is almost gone, but it seems to be like the widow's oil that is never running out! :) Anyway, I normally get chills that last 20 min and then a fever and so I do it at night so that when I wake up I'm fine and move on. Well, this last one was a DOOZY! I had really hard chills straight for 35 min, dry-heaved after taking a sip of peppermint tea, had a 102 fever all night and it didn't let up for 2 days along with feeling nauseated and weak and hardly eating. I still got all the juices, but not much food. Then when that went away, I got a pain under my left rib cage. It was probably a part of my small intestine cramping up or spazzing out, but it was a pretty sharp pain. Sitting up wasn't painful, so I spent one night sitting up in bed mostly. Luckily it is mostly gone now. And Saturday was just this awful depression over the whole house. But then, Sunday morning, everything seemed to lift and things are feeling a lot better now. So that's been my week.

I'm so glad you are enjoying your job!!! I really am! And I'm glad you are making more money! I am sorry it's not more, but that WILL come! I miss you too! I can't believe it's been 9 months since we were together! Keep up the great work! You are in my thoughts and prayers! I hope your week is a great one!! YOU are great! And so precious to me!

I love you!!!!  
Love, Mom

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9/1/14

Hello Sweet Boy!! (Taylor)

I'm so glad you got to go to the training with Elder Robbins! It sounds like you learned a lot! I'm glad you are back in the same apartment as Elder Diaz too! The other day, he made friends with me on Facebook and so did his mother. She messaged me and I am so slow at responding! I'm planning on it today though..)

So last week at church I forgot to mention that it was Corbin Short and another priest named Jared Hannah's farewell talks. Corbin gave a long, but very thought-out and beautiful talk which I thought summed up the Preach My Gospel book perfectly. He mostly talked about obedience and faith and I thought maybe he had just referenced everything from Preach My Gospel, but he said, "you might be thinking I just took this right from a book or something, but I didn't. I have thought about this a lot and have studied and these are the things I have learned. He is prepared spiritually and I was very impressed! Jared did a great job too, but I don't think you know him, as he moved in after you left. This week it was Ben Monk's farewell. He also did a great job. It's pretty crazy! Corbin, if you didn't know is going to England. And Ben is going to Bangalor, India. Yikes! That was originally where Grandma and Grandpa Janis were called to serve. Then they were reassigned to Mongolia a few weeks later. Mason Allen was called to a southern California mission near LA, Spanish speaking. He leaves in October I think. So we are all thinking about missionary stuff a lot!

When I wrote you last Monday, I was still feeling pretty good from the weekend, but I wore myself out or something because then I got really tired that afternoon. On Tuesday night I was feeling a little better, so I went ahead with my Collies vaccine shot that I get twice a week in my arm. It can give me the chills after about an hour that usually last about 20 min, and then I get a fever and I'm fine the next day. But this one was a DOOZY!!! I got the chills and they were so strong and lasted 35 minutes. By the end I had a headache. Towards the end Dad asked if he could do anything. I asked for peppermint tea, which was on my nightstand. He put it to my lips and I took a tiny sip. 5 seconds later, I needed to throw up. Dad ran out to get a bowl. He came back and I mostly dry heaved as I continued to shake and my teeth chattered uncontrollably. Anyway, I finally calmed down and then I got a fever. I went to sleep and woke up at 2:30 and checked my temperature. It was 102. Well, the next day, instead of

feeling better, I continued the high temperature and felt very nauseated. It lasted 2 full days and I was in bed feeling very weak and sick, hardly eating. It was awful!

Then when that went away, the next afternoon right under my left rib cage, I felt what was probably part of my small intestine spasm. It was this sharp pain and it was like something went to twist and lurch and sent a pain like a side ache when you are running. I couldn't lie down in a comfortable position, so I sat up mostly. I didn't tell Dad, because he would have stressed out. So he went to sleep that night, not knowing about this. I just figure it in to all the parts of my body are healing at one time or another, and this will come and go. But by 11:30 that night, I had to sit up to not feel the pain. And Dad woke up and then I had to tell him and he stressed out. Oh well. So the next day it was still pretty sharp and steady. But gradually it has almost gone away.

On Saturday there was such a bad, gloomy, depressed spirit resting on all of us. But Sunday came and I felt as good as I did last Sunday, and we are trying to pull out of the craziness of last week. Today marks 4 months since I started the Gerson Therapy. I haven't cheated on eating once (except the sacrament bread and water.) It's been the longest four months of my life. But like every day on this therapy I feel like I climbed a mountain just to remind myself I get to climb it again the next day, I feel the same about each month too. And four months is a pretty decent chunk that is behind me.

Sorry to give such nitty gritty details. We did watch a couple of cute movies this week that brightened the mood. And I had a couple of visits from ladies and I talked to several family members on the phone, so not everything was bad. I think it was just one of the hardest weeks we've had. So this week should be good! I am grateful to call upon Heavenly Father anytime, anywhere. I'm grateful for His word. I found another promise of health and healing for those who help the poor (and it seems to indicate fast offerings in a way) in Isaiah chapter 58:6-11:

" 6 *Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke?*  
7 *Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? when thou seest the naked, that thou cover him; and that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh?*

8 ¶*Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily: and thy righteousness shall go before thee; the glory of the LORD shall be thy rearward.*

9 Then shalt thou call, and the LORD shall answer; thou shalt cry, and he shall say, Here I *am*.  
If thou take away from the midst of thee the yoke, the putting forth of the finger, and speaking  
vanity;

10 And *if* thou draw out thy soul to the hungry, and satisfy the afflicted soul; then shall thy  
light rise in obscurity, and thy darkness *be* as the noonday:

11 And the LORD shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy  
bones: and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail  
not."

Have you seen a lot of poor on your mission? I know it's all relative and you aren't going to  
see things like you would see in India or the Philippines, but I'm curious.

I love you so much Taylor!!! You are such a strength to me! Even if you are having a bad  
week, I still draw strength from you. I love hearing all about whatever you have to tell me and  
I'm just so happy you are where you are and doing what you are doing and loving it! I know  
the gospel is true. It gives light, knowledge, peace, direction and hope. I love Jesus Christ and  
stand all amazed at His love and His willingness to suffer, even as He started into it and  
started to grasp the extent of His required sufferings and asked if there was another way, and  
then when there wasn't, He didn't shrink from that bitterest of all cups that ever were or ever  
will be from eternity to all eternity. I love Him and praise Him and worship Him with all my  
heart!

I hope you have a magnificent week and that it is full of miracles, new friends, good food,  
learning and loving!

Love, Mom

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9/4/14

Hi Mom, (Vivian)

Thank you for your thoughts and sweet note!! I really appreciate that! This is the hardest thing  
I've ever done in my life! I try to be strong, but I have many pity parties. I do enjoy my calling. I  
teach the 4th Sunday in Relief Society from the Conference talks. It's been a wonderful  
experience to study the talks in depth! I've been blessed to feel good enough through all of  
this to go to church each Sunday. I'm so grateful!

Actually, I don't have a book club, but I do have a writing group. It has been really great! We get together at my home so that I can get all my juices. We are writing a life history of sorts. The lady in charge has a book called Legacy, and she will read a prompt or question and I set the timer for 15 minutes and we all write on that topic and then when the timer goes off, we go around and read to each other what we wrote. Then we do it again and sometimes a third time if we are up to it. It is great getting to know the women and it's nice to be writing down fun memories that just pop into my head. It's not complete, but it's something!

I know everyone wants to ease this burden for me and there are so many people who do in their own way. But mostly I just have to go through it. It's like that story "I'm Going on a Bear Hunt": you can't go over it, you can't go under it, you can't go around it, you have to go through it!:) I know the Lord is strengthening me. Sometimes it's hard to tell, but I continue to pray and my mind is always singing or saying, "I Need Thee Every Hour." My previous visiting teaching companion, from Peru told me this was my special time with Heavenly Father, while I can't be running around, busy and preoccupied, I just have to rest, and I can have this time to draw closer to Heavenly Father. I really liked that and I have been doing that. He is truly my source of strength.

I'm so grateful for Taylor and the source of happiness and strength he is bringing to me! I get an email, or text, or Facebook message quite often from people that know him on his mission telling me what a wonderful missionary and young man he is, that he is their favorite, or that he is truly outstanding. I got one just yesterday. Damon Jr. is also a source of comfort and happiness and I am so blessed to have him in my life right now. And your wonderful son is one of my most prized blessings!!! I don't know how I could make it without his goodness and strength. Thank you again and again for being such a wonderful mother to him and raising him as you did!!!

I think of you often and pray for your recovery. I'm so sorry you have been in such pain! Please know you are always welcome here!!! We love you so much and want to help in any way we can!! Thank you again so much for your letter!!! I hope you have a beautiful day!

Love, Tiffany

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9/8/14

Dear, wonderful Elder Janis!!!!

How are you my boy?!!! Your letter was awesome as usual! The mission training by Elder Schwitzer sounds like it was really good!! And Sister Toone's testimony touched me as you shared her story. You are such a wonderful son, I just pray that you will learn what Heavenly Father knows you need to learn. I am so thrilled with who you are and what I see you becoming! I think the story of her prayers for that one son was just that: she prayed that for



HIM, and probably not that for any of her other missionary children. I think I would have more specifics for Spencer, if you know what I mean.:)

How is it going with your two companions? I hope the newest one is able to stay! It's a hard road either way, but going home is much harder and seems to lead to thorny paths and a lot of sorrow, and not just for him.

That guy that takes 2 second videos of each day, WOW! What a great idea!! I love it! That would only make a 12 minute video of the year, so you could totally get like 10 seconds a day and it would be an hour. Add music and that would be too fun! Anyway, I might think about that!

Last week was better than the week before. And this weekend was good too. I hesitate to say I'm coming out of the healing reaction because I feel like I keep saying that and then still keep having reactions. But I do think I am feeling better and my energy is picking up slowly too. It's so much easier to have a positive outlook and feel gratitude when I feel good physically and mentally. It has been amazing to me how the healing reactions and the toxins that dump into my system affect my emotions too. Because they are circulating in my brain too, which can cause anxiety and depression. I have more compassion for people suffering from either or both of those. It is like night and day. When you have depression, it's like night and darkness and despair and when you don't have it, there is sunshine in the soul and a song in the heart, and HOPE smiling brightly before you. I ache to give that light to people. It is truly as debilitating as physical sickness and I've experienced both this last month. But there is light in my heart again, so I do think the next couple of months may be pretty good.

This week I read a devotional talk that Elder Holland gave at BYU a few years ago called Cast Not Away Therefore Your Confidence. He talks about receiving revelation and how Satan will try to thwart it either before (like with Joseph Smith before the First Vision) or after (as with Moses after his vision). He then talks about Moses parting the Red Sea and the lessons on revelation he sees from that story, and it really struck me how I've experienced that over and over this past year. He talks about 3 principles. The first is that revelation almost always comes in response to a question, an urgent question regarding some specific information. So like Moses at the Red Sea, with the Egyptian army coming upon them, he had an urgent question that was life or death: what do I do? Well, for me, my urgent question was where do I go for treatment, what will help me heal? If we exert all our powers to call upon God, there is not much Satan can do to stop the light from coming to us. And we got a very clear answer about Envita, and then a few months later about the clinic in Mexico and the Gerson Therapy.

The second lesson from Elder Holland was that in the process of revelation and in making important decisions, fear almost always plays a destructive, sometimes paralyzing role. That's what happened to the children of Israel. When they saw the army they freaked out and doubted. They forgot the miracles that had gotten them to where they were, the frogs, the lice, the deaths of the firstborn. He says that at those times of doubt, we must resist the temptation

to pain and to give up. That is Satan's greatest weapon against us. Then he quotes Moses: "And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord... The Lord shall fight for you." And when I read that it hit me hard. My healing reactions were scary. I had to push thoughts of "is this working, am I really having a healing reaction, or is the cancer getting worse?" out of my head. And when we were in Arizona and we had paid so much money and the results hadn't started appearing, that was scary too. So Elder Holland says that the second lesson of revelation from this story is to go forward, don't doubt the revelation you received, the light that came from above.

And the third lesson is that "along with the illuminating revelation that points us toward a righteous purpose or duty, God will also provide the means and power to achieve that purpose." And that really got me! Of course for the Israelites, the Red Sea parted and they walked on dry ground and the army was swallowed up. The Lord provided. As I thought about my situation, I saw His hand in so many ways! He provided us with the means to do all that we have done this year. There is no way at any other time in our whole married life we could have afforded all this care. We lived from paycheck to paycheck. But what we have needed in the way of money has been there for us. Secondly, finding Envita was also a miracle. Aunt Heather had sent Dad an article about Envita and Dad didn't really get what they did, so he filed it away in the reject file. He got two more promptings to look at it again. On that third time, he finally got it and he called and we ended up going there and they made great progress in stopping the growth and shrinking the tumors. Third, before I even knew I was sick, Dad felt an urgency to have me get a passport. He made all the arrangements and took me where I needed to go to get it. Then he felt the same about Emily. After I came back to Arizona after my break in March, my tumor marker, as you remember, went up. The next week it went up again, and then I went back home for a week and that's when we decided that we should do Gerson. Well, we were going to wait till the end of May to go so that we could go to Ethan's wedding. But when we came back to Arizona, the marker was even higher. So we went the next week. We could not have gone that last minute without our passports. The Lord provided. And fourth, the helper that we had let go had actually partially broken our juicer. It is a Norwalk juicer, the top of the line juicer (\$2500). You can't get it at Bed Bath and Beyond, let's just say. You have to order it. But it was still functioning. Well, at the end of June, we had a 5th Sunday priesthood/Relief Society meeting on hurricane preparedness. Dad realized we were an emergency case if there was a hurricane. We have a generator, but the real problem is if the trucks aren't able to ship fresh organic produce in for a few days or weeks. So we realized we needed to have a plan to get out and fly to California. We would need to bring the juicer. Dad had thrown the box for the juicer away and then he thought it would be smart to have a backup juicer in case something happened and we could put the old one in the new box and have it ready to fly with us if needed. And he felt that thought grow urgent, so that day, in the chapel during the meeting, he ordered another juicer. Well, on Wednesday, three days later, as a juice was being pressed, a thick stainless steel platform on it just broke in half. And about 4 hours later, our new juicer arrived. So I have learned that the Lord DOES provide!!! And I am so grateful for a husband who can hear the promptings of the Holy Ghost!!

I also realized from this story about the children of Israel, that even though they got revelation and were led miraculously out of Egypt and over dry land across the Red Sea, there were no tour buses on the other side to pick them up and drive them to the Promised Land with pit stops at McDonalds and Buc-ee's! (had to throw that in! Go Buc-ee's!) ) They still had to trudge all the way to the Promised Land. The Lord did what only He could do, but requires us to do the rest. And so, even though this trial is hard and long, He is there, providing the way and the means for my healing. And that is my testimony and my trust in Him and in my healing.

I love you so much Taylor!!! I hope you have a marvelous week with many mighty miracles and a lot of hard work!!! Keep smiling! I got a Facebook message from Eric Sabourin this week that said, "Elder Janis was one of our missionaries over a year ago. He has been my wife and I's favorite missionary. I joined the church a little over 3 years ago and it was such a blessing to have him in our ward. He has one of the greatest attitudes and is always smiling. I know that he has done well with the Lord's work. I wanted to share my appreciation and gratitude for Him as one of our missionaries. Thank you." So keep that smile on every mile!:) that was cheesy! Cheese.... mmmm. Sounds so good!... Anyways...

Love you soooooooooo much!!!!  
Mom

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9/15/14

Hello my son!!!

Your letter last week was so funny!!!!!!! Elder Glencoe was definitely "in the zone!" :) Remember Damon's comp with the big birthday cake picture?:)

This past week was better for me. I had a few good days and the food wasn't as intolerable. My energy is still low, but I'm getting used to that. I'm just supposed to rest and heal, so I'm lying around a lot. I'm in Lamentations in The Old Testament now. Just plowing through. I think now that I'm feeling a little better I'm going to start doing indexing. And maybe, just maybe I can get everyone else on the bandwagon. I'm not too good at that in our family of chiefs and not Indians. I know we all would receive the help of Heaven if we did, but you can lead a horse to water, but you can't make him drink. That's a positive, optimistic attitude, huh? :D I think it will be our FHE activity. There is a FANTASTIC mormon message about indexing and overcoming addiction through indexing. It is a powerful video!!

I realized during the sacrament yesterday that I have become extremely critical of people. Maybe I've always been, but I'm noticing how bad it is. So I'm really trying to work on it. Especially when I think about the concerns I have of some of my children, I tend to focus on the worries, which are the negatives and they drown out all the positives, which isn't good. So

that's one thing to do. Also imagining Peter as he walked on the water. As long as he was focused on Jesus, he could do it, but when he looked at the waves, he sunk. So I am trying to stay focused on the Savior. Like the scripture D&C 6:36: "Look unto me in every thought; doubt not, fear not."

I don't know what else to say. Sorry this is a shorter letter. I'm doing well and I hope all is well with you. I hope you have a great day and a fantastic week!!! I love you so much!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Thank you for being the wonderful son and missionary that you are!!!

Love, Mom

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9/22/14

Hi Taylor!!

You are so special and wonderful!!! I love you so much!!! I got both of your letters and they were perfectly timed too!!! Yay! The first one came on a day that was pretty good but I was starting to feel anxious and depressed and then I remembered you saying you wrote a letter. So I went to the mailbox and there it was!! I hugged it and started to cry!:) thank you for both of them!! I love the story about Kelly!! (That's her name, right? The one from tacos and more?) tender mercies from the Lord!!

Well, after a year and a week I'm back in the emergency room. Last week I was having some really bad pain in my abdomen and one night for about 20 minutes on my lower left front side I had a spasm that happened over and over. It felt like I was getting shot. Nothing to do but take it until it passed. And the pain has stayed longer than the other times this had occurred along with a pretty high fever, nausea and no energy. Yesterday I actually felt a lot better except for the tightness in my upper abdomen. Then last night the stronger pain came back. I only had an occasional spasm but it was a bad night. Anyway we think maybe it's my gall bladder and gall stones. I had stopped taking this medication that prevents them that I was taking in Arizona. I guess I shouldn't have. I was hoping the Gerson therapy would flush it out. I just got this book on flushing effectively and painlessly gall stones a couple of days ago, so if they tell me it's the gall stones and I need surgery to remove my gall bladder, I probably will try the flush first! "I don't need no stinkin' surgeries!" "Ain't nobody got time for that!!":) anyway I'm in a waiting room and I'm going to be getting a cat scan and an ultrasound. If I get done before you are on I'll send an update. Otherwise I'll send you a Facebook message.

There was a day last week where I just really didn't feel like Heavenly Father was very close on a daily basis. I knew he was guiding us but I felt alone and sad. Dad was talking to Uncle Brandon and he recommended that I read a devotional speech by Elder Holland called Lessons From Liberty Jail. I had read it a few years ago but I really needed that that day! Joseph Smith had seen Heavenly Father at least once and the Savior at least twice, yet in Liberty jail he felt abandoned. And even Jesus was left alone on the cross. It was a good reminder that I may not feel them but they are aware of me, love me and are near. Dad has

given me a couple of blessings this week and Brandon gave me one as well. They have given me guidance, strength, and comfort. This is a really tough time, but I feel very calm and peaceful almost all the time. That is such a blessing!

I am so glad you are a missionary and working so hard and being the absolutely wonderful person that you are!!! I can't even explain what a bright light you are in my life!!! I love you so much and I hope that you have a grand week of many mighty miracles and sweet memories!

Love, Mom

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9/25/14

Hi precious children!

My pain is easing up, which is nice! Also we are gathering some good info on more things to do to tweak this system that may be very effective! I feel a lot of hope today. Also we talked with my dr in AZ today and I mentioned that it seemed like in Arizona on a scan I had a pretty big tumor and he looked it up. In January I had a PET scan and the biggest tumor was measured at 9.4 cm, which may mean that since January that tumor has shrunk a bit. And that changes the whole story. So that was very hopeful! We are going to follow up and send the two scans to Arizona and they will send them to the radiologist and ask for a tumor by tumor comparison in size and number. The reports have been so sketchy that it's been hard to know really what's going on. So it still may not be great news but there is definitely more hope. Also the dr didn't seem to think the cancer has spread to the ovaries. Not sure why but he said he wasn't concerned. So we have lighter hearts today. He gave me a few ideas about treating my liver with some extra TLC and is sending some stuff too. We have at least 3 other doctors in Mexico, and other parts of the country sending their ideas and trying their best to help as well.

I thought you would want to know. Sorry it took so long to get this off today! Sleep sweeter tonight please!! I love you and thank you both for reaching out to your friends in my behalf!!! I know it's helping me!!!

Love, Mom

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9/29/14

Hi Elder Janis!!!

Congratulations on being with Elder Jolley again!!!!!! What a sweet blessing for you! I am so interested in how your one on one with President Toone went!!! Thank you for your Facebook post about asking for prayers! There have been so many people that have reached out and it's been so nice! The picture at prom really got Dad emotionally. I love that picture! I'm glad we thought to take it!

We feel the strength from all the prayers of the Tempe Arizona Mission. The day after, we started looking up this enzyme I've been taking orally. The doctor in Mexico sent an article to Dad a few days before of a lady who shrunk her tumors in DAYS taking the enzymes, but crushing them into a powder and basically doing an enema. So I've done three, but they are more uncomfortable than the coffee enemas, so we are still figuring it out, but the research we've done has a lot of good evidence that this enzyme is what the pancreas produces to kill any tumors the body may have. But if your pancreas stops functioning as well, cancer can grow. It's just like diabetes. When the pancreas gets damaged, it stops producing insulin and the body reacts with diabetes. So if you give it proper nutrition and insulin, you can live a good life. Anyway, we are feeling good about this and are still looking for more direction from Heavenly Father. We know He will lead us.

I've realized trust is an even higher form of faith. With faith we believe in things hoped for but not seen, but trust is having faith in the Lord and in his plan for you, believing He knows best and accepting His will without reservation. I have faith in things I hope for, but my trust runneth a little shallow. :) But each time I pray, I just feel like His will is for me to live, so I keep working hard!

It was so wonderful to talk to you and hear your voice!! You sound so good! I hope you aren't putting up too big of a strong and positive front for my sake that you are not sharing things that we could support *you* with. I sensed that in your Facebook status.

I am feeling much better these past few days since the mission started praying for me. Grandma Scott came in on Saturday, and had a layover in Phoenix and got the thunderstorm that delayed her getting to Houston by 7 hours. I'm sure you were getting hit pretty hard too! You got a car just in time! :) It is sooooo good to have her here!

We have had some undependable times with Lauren Riggs and Dad felt like we needed to let her go. So for now, Spencer is taking her place. It's a good job for him and it's nice just having family in the house at times!

In Sunday School yesterday we were talking about Isaiah and we read a scripture and talked about it in a way I had never realized before. It is amazing!!! It is Isaiah 5:26-29 and think of it in terms of hastening the work and the mobilized missionary force. You are the young lions and you are carrying away people to a safe place, to holy places like church and the temple and helping them have a holy home so they are safe. Here is the passage:

26 And he will lift up an ensign to the nations from far, and will hiss unto them from the end of the earth: and, behold, they (the missionaries!) shall come with speed swiftly:

27 None shall be weary nor stumble among them; none shall slumber nor sleep; neither shall the girdle of their loins be loosed, nor the latchet of their shoes be broken:

28 Whose arrows are sharp, and all their bows bent, their horses' hoofs shall be counted like flint, and their wheels like a whirlwind:

29 Their roaring shall be like a lion, they shall roar like young lions: yea, they shall roar, and lay hold of the prey, and shall carry it away safe, and none shall deliver it.

Isn't that cool? I thought it was a military thing, "but carrying it away safe" I had never noticed before and it totally goes with hastening the work, converts, and lifting up an ensign. And if he's really talking here about missionaries, that is the coolest description of missionaries I have ever read!!!!:)

I love you so much Taylor!!! There was a mom who posted on this facebook missionary mom group Shelby signed me up for that asked the women how long it takes to stop having a broken heart over having your missionary gone. She talked about needing extra medication to help her get through the holidays and how hard it was to go through football season without him. My fire got going and I had to respond. Never have posted anything before, but this got me going. This is what I wrote:

"When my oldest son left I thought my heart broke. But there is NOTHING like a broken heart to compare with the broken heart I have experienced for longer than two years when my second son decided not to serve. Your children will come home in a little more than a blink of an eye and the joy compensates way more than any loss you may be feeling right now. My third son is out now and I have had the most joyful heart of gratitude the whole time!!! I miss him and have cried a couple of times (he's been gone 19 months now) but moms!!! Thank your Heavenly Father for that beautiful child serving!!! There is nowhere I would want him more and it is like fireworks that go off in my heart every time I think of him out there. And this is also coming from a mom whose been battling stage 4 colon cancer for the past year."

I just can't STAND moms who whine!:) Anyway, those are my feelings and I do feel like shouting HALLELUJAH every time I think of you serving!!!! Keep smiling, expect miracles and go preach the glorious gospel!!!

Love, Mom

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10/6/14

Oh Taylor!!

I hope this can reach you in time! I went to the chiropractor this morning and got home and was wiped out so I took a nap and when I woke up I forgot I needed to write you!!

We are still in the process of working on new stuff but we are positive. It's a little overwhelming as there are so many things we could do but we can't do them all. I'm going to get well though, no if ands or buts, and when you get home I will be strong and screaming!:)

Grandma leaves tomorrow and that is so sad to me. But she comes out about every six weeks which has been a tremendous blessing!!! Aunt Amy is coming on October 18 for a few days which I am really looking forward to!!!

Conference was wonderful as always! So many good talks to read and ponder and apply.

I'm so grateful for you being my son and serving right at this time to bless us. Maybe this is why you were born when you were!! You are just wonderful!! Keep being the wonderful you!! Keep smiling and expect miracles!!! The gospel is the glorious truth!!

Love Mom

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10/13/14

Hi sweet boy of mine!!!

You are having so many amazing experiences!!! I can't believe how much you are able to teach! I know I just get the highlights, but I know there are areas in the world where missionaries get an investigator every few weeks or months. I'm very happy for you! There are a lot of people in Arizona who need and want the message of the gospel and are ready to hear it! I feel so blessed to have an amazing son serving and teaching and testifying!

I haven't been feeling as much pain this past week and I know it has a LOT to do with the chiropractic adjustments! This chiropractor is in a group of chiropractors that have a system called Maximized Living and it not only focuses on adjustments, but tries to educate on the whole body and mind in health and wellness and healing. One of the leaders in the Maximized Living group is a chiropractor from Illinois, a Dr. Majors. We had a phone consult with him a couple of weeks ago. Dad may have told you about it, I don't know. But he overcame and healed from a cancer called multiple myeloma, which starts in the plasma cells of the bone marrow. It is an incurable cancer. He had a brain tumor as well. He is totally clear. He did it through alternative methods and after looking over everything I have done and am doing he said that I should be totally healed. So we need to change a few things up and see if we can find the missing link. Dad told you our game plan for now, and we feel it's getting traction. I don't know, physical therapy sounds really good, but you may want to think about chiropractic too! 😊

Dad, Emily and I went to see Meet the Mormons on Friday night and I loved it!!! It was so well done! I loved the stories, the cinematography, and the music. We saw several people from the ward and stake there. It was showing at the Memorial City Mall.

I have been reading "Think and Grow Rich" this week. I'm not looking to getting rich, but the premise of the book is "whatever the mind can conceive and believe it can achieve." It is amazing to learn about how powerful the mind is, and it is about positive thinking that then



produces positive outcomes in your life. Like for a good example, you had a very positive attitude and visualization of your mission and combined with faith you could see yourself having a crazy awesome mission, and that is happening! So I am working on healing as a reality and my subconscious mind will go to work making it happen.

I hope you have a wonderful week!!! I love you so much!!!! You are an incredible son, missionary and human being!!!! Keep up the great work!!! Expect miracles and keep smiling your wonderful smile!!!!!!!!!! The gospel is true, the blessings of the Atonement are infinite and glorious. I love the good news you are sharing! It gives me peace, direction and HOPE!!!!

Love you my precious son!  
Mom

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10/17/14

Hi Heather!

I'm so sorry I haven't written in a while! I think it's because my nails are so crazy long and it drives me crazy to type. Hold on one minute while I go clip them!!!...Ahhhh! Oh this is wonderful!!!!:) I don't know, it's not that big of a deal, but most everything seems to be an effort. Doing all the therapy and brushing my teeth and going to the bathroom is mandatory, and then if I can get in a shower and brush my hair, I'm having a really productive day!:) It's not that bad really.

So every day has its ups and downs, good things and bad. This past week and even most of last week has been really good. We had a phone consult about three weeks ago with a chiropractor who is a leader in a chiropractic program called Maximized Living. A chiropractor that Dad and Emily and now Spencer and I are going to is part of it and that's how we heard about him. Two years ago he was diagnosed with multiple myeloma (an incurable cancer in the bone marrow) and had a tumor in his brain. He did a lot of similar stuff as me and is now completely clear. So that's encouraging! Anyway, he studied all the stuff I have been doing and have done over the past year that Dad had sent over to him, and he said I should be totally clear of cancer, so since I'm not, we just need to find the missing key. Since my weight and energy had dropped he felt like I should tweak the Gerson Therapy just a little to drop a few juices and add in a couple of protein shakes with coconut milk and a few almonds. And to have meat a few times a week. (I had just gotten permission from the doctor in Mexico to have fish once a week.) He also wants me to get tested for food sensitivities that could be causing inflammation, since I eat the same things every day. That may be what is causing the pain I've been feeling. He also strongly recommended chiropractic adjustments. It was cool. When I went in to the chiropractor here, he has a machine that goes down your spine and it uses some kind of thermo something to tell where blockages are. So my top three vertebrae were compressed, which meant the nerves that run through them can't send or receive signals there, which is the brain stem. That is where communication to the whole body takes

place. Another place on my back had several vertebrae compressed which is the place in the spine where the nerves communicating to all organs in the abdomen are. So now that I have been a few times, my energy is up and my body is probably communicating a lot better. My weight still hasn't gone up, but we're working on it. Anyway, there were a few other supplements and tests he recommended, but I really appreciated his positive attitude.

I wrote something to Taylor a few weeks ago I want to share. I may put it up on the Happy Corner page sometime, but I want to share it with you. I said:

"This week I read a devotional talk that Elder Holland gave at BYU a few years ago called Cast Not Away Therefore Your Confidence. He talks about receiving revelation and how Satan will try to thwart it either before (like with Joseph Smith before the First Vision) or after (as with Moses after his vision). He then talks about Moses parting the Red Sea and the lessons on revelation he sees from that story, and it really struck me how I've experienced that over and over this past year. He talks about 3 principles. The first is that revelation almost always comes in response to a question, an urgent question regarding some specific information. So like Moses at the Red Sea, with the Egyptian army coming upon them, he had an urgent question that was life or death: what do I do? Well, for me, my urgent question was where do I go for treatment, what will help me heal? If we exert all our powers to call upon God, there is not much Satan can do to stop the light from coming to us. And we got a very clear answer about Envita, and then a few months later about the clinic in Mexico and the Gerson Therapy.

The second lesson from Elder Holland was that in the process of revelation and in making important decisions, fear almost always plays a destructive, sometimes paralyzing role. That's what happened to the children of Israel. When they saw the army they freaked out and doubted. They forgot the miracles that had gotten them to where they were, the frogs, the lice, the deaths of the firstborn. He says that at those times of doubt, we must resist the temptation to pain and to give up. That is Satan's greatest weapon against us. Then he quotes Moses: "And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord... The Lord shall fight for you." And when I read that it hit me hard. My healing reactions were scary. I had to push thoughts of "is this working, am I really having a healing reaction, or is the cancer getting worse?" out of my head. And when we were in Arizona and we had paid so much money and the results hadn't started appearing, that was scary too. So Elder Holland says that the second lesson of revelation from this story is to go forward, don't doubt the revelation you received, the light that came from above.

And the third lesson is that "along with the illuminating revelation that points us toward a righteous purpose or duty, God will also provide the means and power to achieve that purpose." And that really got me! Of course for the Israelites, the Red Sea parted and they walked on dry ground and the army was swallowed up. The Lord provided. As I thought about my situation, I saw His hand in so many ways! He provided us with the means to do all that we have done this year. There is no way at any other time in our whole married life we could have afforded all this care. We lived from paycheck to paycheck. But what we have needed in the way of money has been there for us. Secondly, finding Envita was also a miracle. Aunt Heather had sent Dad an article about Envita and Dad didn't really get what they did, so he filed it away in the reject file. He got two more promptings to look at it again. On that third time, he finally got it and he called and we ended up going there and they made great progress in stopping the growth and shrinking the tumors. Third, before I even knew I was sick, Dad felt an urgency to have me get a passport. He made all the arrangements and took me where I needed to go to get it. Then he felt the same about Emily. After I came back to Arizona after my break in March, my tumor marker, as you remember, went up. The next week it went up again, and then I went back home for a week and that's when we decided that we should do Gerson. Well, we were going to

wait till the end of May to go so that we could go to Ethan's wedding. But when we came back to Arizona, the marker was even higher. So we went the next week. We could not have gone that last minute without our passports. The Lord provided. And fourth, the helper that we had let go had actually partially broken our juicer. It is a Norwalk juicer, the top of the line juicer. You can't get it at Bed Bath and Beyond, let's just say. You have to order it. But it was still functioning. Well, at the end of June, we had a 5th Sunday priesthood/Relief Society meeting on hurricane preparedness. Dad realized we were an emergency case if there was a hurricane. We have a generator, but the real problem is if the trucks aren't able to ship fresh organic produce in for a few days or weeks. So we realized we needed to have a plan to get out and fly to California. We would need to bring the juicer. Dad had thrown the box for the juicer away and then he thought it would be smart to have a backup juicer in case something happened and we could put the old one in the new box and have it ready to fly with us if needed. And he felt that thought grow urgent, so that day, in the chapel during the meeting, he ordered another juicer. Well, on Wednesday, three days later, as a juice was being pressed, a thick stainless steel platform on it just broke in half. That made it impossible to press the juice. And about 4 hours later, our new juicer arrived. So I have learned that the Lord DOES provide!!! And I am so grateful for a husband who can hear the promptings of the Holy Ghost!!

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So that's what I wrote, and I'm glad I got it down!

I hope you have a marvelous day tomorrow and feel my love all the way from Texas!!! I love you and miss you so much!! I think of you every day!!! Keep smiling your beautiful smile!

Love, Mom

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10/20/14

Taylor!!!!

Tell me you got this! I will send a hand-written letter this week!! I have Amy here visiting and totally forgot to write. I am doing super well though! Went to the chiropractor this morning and then to Dollar Tree for decorations for Emily's birthday. Dad Emily and Spencer went to Kema today. I love you so much!!!



Emily took this pic last night.

Love, Mom

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10/27/14

Hello my wonderful son!

How are you?? I love you so much!!! The weather in Arizona is looking like it's perfect! That is sooooo wonderful you were able to see Matteo and that he is still strong in the gospel!!! That reminds me of the sons of Mosiah and Alma when they met back up again. I'm sure from their background, they may have wondered if the other would have slipped back to their old ways too, and the joy of seeing each other and that they still were converted caused that overwhelming joy. Did you fall to the earth because your joy was so great even that you were full; yea, you were swallowed up in the joy of your God, even to the exhausting of your strength?:)

Taylor, I don't know if there has EVER been the opportunity for a missionary at any other time in the history of the world where on your mission you get to participate in the open house and dedication of TWO temples!!! This is super historic!!! What a huge blessing for you and for the people in Arizona!

I'm doing well. I have my ups and downs every day. It seems like I'm laughing and feeling great one hour and the next I'm crying and having a meltdown the next. I feel so impatient to be healed and Dad continues tirelessly to keep researching and sorting through so much information! It has been amazing what we have come across even in just the last week! It seems like the most effective alternative things to cure cancer are just coming together and we are processing through all of it. Dad just watched this 11 episode video series that just came out about alternative cures, and I watched the last two and we pulled out a lot of good stuff as well as a couple of books that are giving us good stuff.

I don't know if you heard that Auna's son, Staussen, just got diagnosed with Leukemia last week. The protocol for treatment is two years, but there is an 85-90% success rate. It will be a difficult two years for all involved. Mindy is flying out today to be with them and to take care of Daisy. He will most likely be in the hospital for the next 5 months, and Auna can't leave him there alone, yet it would be really hard to take care of a baby in the hospital too. Ron would have to quit medical school to be there, and that isn't a good option. So Mindy will be there maybe for the first 5 months, maybe traveling back to Richmond every few weekends or so. So that's the latest there.

So from Dad's letter, you know about Damon and Macall getting married in Houston on your birthday! They want to have a casual celebration the day before the wedding which is the day after Thanksgiving, so I am kicking into gear and enlisting the help of Audralyn Allen. :) They are only inviting their parents and her brother to the sealing. Unfortunately there has been some pressure about where to have the wedding put on them from both sides of the family. Extended family, I should say, because both sets of parents and siblings would support Damon and Macall's decision, whatever it was. (There has to be some drama in every wedding! :) But unfortunately it's my circumstance that is the reason for the drama. sigh) But they feel good about this, and even though it wasn't what Macall ever envisioned ( and I'm sure the Houston Temple was the last temple Damon wanted to be sealed in ;) ), they are deciding to have this be more about the covenant than about a big huge wedding. They will have to go back to school and defer their honeymoon to December, along with a casual celebration in Utah. So it will all work out and they cut their engagement by half, and that is fine with them. :)

I taught Relief Society yesterday and I think it went really well. I talked about the difficult trials we all have, are or will face and how Pres. Uchdorf suggests gratitude as a help. I had 7 sisters read different scriptures where the Lord asks us to be grateful in all things. Then I read this quote.

"Could I suggest that we see gratitude as a disposition, a way of life that stands independent of our current situation? In other words, I'm suggesting that instead of being thankful *for* things, we focus on being thankful *in* our circumstances—whatever they may be."

Then I asked how we can develop this disposition. So Sister Riggs said to just start with being grateful for things and that will grow as we make it a habit. That was a good start. But it seemed like they couldn't quite get the idea of being grateful *IN* our circumstances. I said, "Ladies, he's asking us to go to a whole new level of gratitude! How do we do this?" Then I mentioned three of the stories he talked about, Nephi being strapped to the boat, Job, and Joseph Smith in Liberty Jail and each of them having something positive to say or glorying in the Lord in their trial.

I then had someone read this quote from his talk, which a couple of months ago Dad had studied four or five times and this is what he realized is the core of the talk:

"In any circumstance, our sense of gratitude is nourished by the many and sacred truths we *do* know: that our Father has given His children the great plan of happiness; that through the Atonement of His Son, Jesus Christ, we can live forever with our loved ones; that in the end, we will have glorious, perfect, and immortal bodies, unburdened by sickness or disability; and that our tears of sadness and loss will be replaced with an abundance of happiness and joy, "good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over."

While she was reading, I wrote on the board:

Plan

Atonement

Resurrection

I expounded a little on that and then asked if anyone had relied on these "sacred truths" to help them get through a difficult time. There were a few. Then I put up about 9 blessings that President Uchdorf had given throughout his talk for developing this disposition:

- Takes away the bitterness that may come into our lives
- Makes life sweeter, more joyful, even glorious
- Healing, peace and understanding
- True joy and great happiness
- Gentle peace in the midst of tribulation
- Experience the closeness and warmth of heaven's embrace
- Heals the heart and expands the mind
- Broadens our perception and clears our vision
- Inspires humility and fosters empathy toward our fellowmen and all of God's creation

In the comments that followed, Jen Hansen said something about how our trials we can see as blessings to be grateful for. I thought, "they aren't getting the point." So I tried to explain and then I just came alive with the Spirit and I was able to communicate and even learned as I was speaking, but I said something like, it's not the trial. It's all about the Plan, the Atonement, and the Resurrection that we can give thanks to the Lord every day, in good times and bad.

Nephi could glory in the Lord because of his understanding and gratitude for his knowledge of those sacred truths; it had nothing to do with the boat. And THAT is the most awesome thing! The Plan, the Atonement, and the Resurrection are SO glorious, so amazing, so grand and eternal and infinite, they trump every circumstance we may be going through. They will make things right, and our ultimate happiness is the whole reason they exist. So no matter the circumstance, we can give the Lord thanks as he asks and have the blessings that come as we develop this disposition. And I think the way we develop this disposition is to study and understand and ponder and truly FEEL appreciation for those three gospel truths. We can't study it enough. Anyway, that's what I learned and as I said most of that, I literally felt a light bulb turn on in everyone's mind. It was like a community aha moment. It was pretty awesome.

Well, I've taken a lot of your precious email time, so I will sign off. I know you are studying those three sacred truths daily and teaching it and your understanding and gratitude for them is magnified and increased because of it, and as you see people you are teaching go through trials, you have that knowledge burning in your heart and can give messages of hope and peace to them.

I love you so much!!! I hope you have a powerful and amazing week! I'm sure you will! You are a beacon of light shining in a world of dark chaos and there are many who will be attracted to that light. Keep shining, keep smiling and know that I am praying for you and loving you and thinking of you every day!!!

Love, Mom

PS: The package has some random Halloween things that I thought you might have fun with at a zone meeting or if you are going to do any leadership stuff, like a stick figure, glow-in-the-dark missionary skit or whatever.:) Have fun!

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11/3/14

Hi Taylor,

I'm sorry I didn't write! I was gone all morning to a dr appt. We met with a doctor that does a lot of similar stuff as Envita in Arizona. He threw so much at us we are still trying to process it. We will start tomorrow. It's going to change up my routine so much that we probably won't need all our hired help any more, so Dad may be letting them go. Spencer will just take over and we'll work out a schedule for him. My energy has been higher the past few weeks, but my whole abdomen seems to be filling up. We don't know if it's inflammation or fluid, but the doctor will hopefully get to the bottom of it soon. He says I will be looking and feeling better in a few weeks. That sounds good to me!! :)

I sent your package to the mission home. I haven't gotten your address since you've been there because you told me to just send it there. Well, it's all Halloween, so your Halloween will extend!

I'm sorry about you and Elder Jolley! I hope your new companion is a wonderful friend for you!

Damon and Macall want an open house in Katy, so we are working on that. Audralyn Allen has been so kind to help me with the planning. We went to the Falcon Point Club House and I think we will go with it. It will be more expensive than doing it ourselves, but that's worth a lot to Dad and I'm in no condition to be hosting 200 people at our house. Have you seen their engagement pictures?

I hope you have a super fantastic week!! I'm so happy for Jennifer and Johnathon! And for you to be able to take part in that! You are doing a mighty work and are doing a fantastic job!!! I got a text from Sister Davenport gushing about you and how much she loves you and thinks you are such a "MIGHTY WARRIOR!" I feel so incredibly blessed!!! Thank you so much!!! Keep smiling and expect those miracles!! Thank you for your love and prayers!!!!

Love, Mom

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11/10/14

Hello my son!

How are you doing? I hope things are going really well and you're having great success! How is your new companion? Are you two having a great time?

We are starting our second week at the clinic now. It seems to be going well. But my stomach is really really big. So we are getting a CT scan tomorrow morning. We think it's fluid buildup. It's a little anxious, but we need to know. I think we will be turning the corner and hopefully making good progress in the next few weeks.

Grandma Scott got here two days ago and it's been wonderful to have her here. She comes at just the right times and is such a strong support. Spencer has been wonderful and is the main man in the kitchen. I'm so grateful for him. He stays so positive and upbeat and encouraging to me. He's gentle and kind and always kisses and hugs me. I really have a lot of great support!!

I was talking to uncle John a couple days ago and he is the young men's president. The priests are in charge of a joint activity in a couple of weeks. It is a missionary activity. He told me all about it and is very excited about it. He wants your feedback. I am going to send you an email he sent me about the activity. I will forward it to you. It has a few documents that are letters to various people in the ward who he is coordinating with. It sounds like a really



awesome activity! So in your letter back to me, if you have any advice or comments or feedback or suggestions especially, I will send that on to John.

I asked Dad to have Brandon come over a few days ago and they gave me a blessing. Brandon blessed me and at the end of the blessing he said that because of my faith that I've had through this experience I will see many blessings that come from that faith. It was very comforting and helpful for me. I'm grateful for your prayers and faith and the the work that you're doing that I know is blessing me and our family! I'm so grateful for you and proud of you and love you so much!

Emily and I watched home videos the other night and it was so fun! We watched your seventh birthday party and it was just a family party where we just sat on the couch and opened presents. I guess we had gone to dollar tree and the kids had each picked out a present for you. After you opened each present, you would get so excited and then give the person a really big hug. It was so sweet to see! There was another video of you guys carving pumpkins at Halloween, and you and Damon were next to each other. Damon was close to having his pumpkin cleaned out and you looked over and said, "Good job Damon! You're almost going to have all the seeds out soon!" It was so cute to see you being a great support and cheerleader to your older brother! And I'm sure Damon replied with a very matter-of-fact serious-toned response.□

I hope you have a wonderful week! Keep smiling, expect miracles, and know that I am praying for you and your success! I love you, I love you, I love you!

Love, Mom

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11/17/14

Hello my fantastic son!!!

How are you? I hope you are doing well and lots of good things are happening. I hear the Phoenix Temple was dedicated yesterday! How wonderful for you! Will you still be going to the Mesa Temple as a mission or do you get to go to the Phoenix Temple now?

I'm glad your new companion is working out for you, and I'm sure you are learning from each other.

This was a pretty crazy week. An Emergency Room visit that was lame and frustrating. They wouldn't drain my stomach. Then through a series of miracles on Friday I got into a place that drained my stomach. We got 3 liters of fluid out. I felt weak all weekend and my stomach is feeling really full again. So we are just still working on things.

Grandma Janis came yesterday and she's going to help figure out food for me to eat, mainly for lunch and dinners since we can't seem to do it ourselves.

Grandma Scott leaves tomorrow unless she doesn't feel like she should. It's been so great to have her.

Last night was a 50 year anniversary celebration of the Oakland Temple dedication. Everyone went to their Stake Center and there was a broadcast. Elder Bednar presided over it. Grandpa Scott said Elder Bednar talked about how when the Conference Center was dedicated, President Hinckley gave a parable about a pearl that someone had. Then they had a box made for it, and the box was admired so much that the pearl was forgotten. So we need to remember that these temples are so beautiful but the pearl is the most precious thing, and that's what's inside the temple and what goes on inside.

Is there anything you can use for your birthday?

You are doing such a great job! I'm so proud of you. I know you are in the right place, doing the right thing, at the right time. And you are going to be so blessed. The Plan of Salvation is so beautiful and that's what you get to share and give people light.

I hope you have a super duper fantastic awesome miraculous week! I think about you and pray for you every day, my dear sweet son. Keep smiling :)

Love,  
Mom

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12/1/14

Hi my wonderful boy!

I hope your Thanksgiving was good. Ours was really good! The kids made all the food except for the turkey which dad did. It was very lovely and tasted good and we had a good time! It was so great to talk to you!!!! You look good and you sounded good and you look happy and I'm so glad!

The open house went really well! Lots of people came it was a steady stream. Audralyn Allen had it decorated super nice and I was so grateful to her!! I think they raked in a lot of target gift cards and money!

My energy has been so low. I got a blood test done today so we'll see if my red blood cells are low and I need a transfusion. That would give me a lot of jump start energy.

Everyone is gone now. It was good to see them all. And you too!

I don't have any real spiritual thought to add to my letter today. I wanted to get this out before you sent and I don't know if I'm going to make it. I hope you get this today! I love you so so much and am cheering you on and praying for you!

I want to tell you about my lesson last week. It was about spiritual whirlwinds. We talked about what comes to mind when we think about spiritual whirlwinds. Elder Anderson said they are things in our lives that can uproot us from our faith. And just like the tree needs strong roots to stay up in the wind, we have things that help us stay strong and anchored to the Gospel.

I told about four different ways that they can be uprooted. One is through sin. But repentance is a powerful force to combat that. That is something we have control over. The other two were choices that other people make and also the things that happen because we are in a mortal state. And the last one he talked about later on was if our prophet says something that's contrary to your social or political beliefs that can be a test of faith and can be a spiritual whirlwind too.

Then I started the discussion by asking how do we prepare for spiritual whirlwinds. Sue Brown said you have to decide now where you stand no matter what, just like we tell the youth to decide now not to smoke etc. She was in an ambulance with her youngest son at one time and he was practically dead. She wanted to cry out, "Heavenly Father, please don't take him", but then thought differently and prayed, do with him what is best for him and whatever the outcome is I will still be true to Thee and faithful to thy plan.

I asked for personal experiences that the ladies had with this, and I got some good responses and even some emotion. Then I bore my testimony that I could say with Sue I will do thy will and will always serve thee and love thee and follow thee. I have learned to submit like a child, but I haven't gotten as far as Sue because I still throw tantrums like a child at Heavenly Father. □

Then I bore my testimony of the atonement and how grateful I am because 1. I can live again and be resurrected, 2. that our family can live forever together, 3. that he descended below all things that he might lift everyone who wants to out of their sins, and 4. that because he took upon himself the afflictions and sicknesses of the world he can know how to sucker me.

I hope you have a marvelous and fantastic week! I love love love you! You bring me so much joy.

Love, Mom

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12/4/14

Dear, Dear Auna!!

Thank you for your wonderful note! I love you so much too! I LOVE the picture you gave me and look at it everyday from my bed.

You are strong and are gaining faith and trust at a younger age than me and that will give you a beautiful sense of compassion and change your life for such good!! This experience will shoot you further to charity than if you didn't have it! I can't BELIEVE how many people have served me, and I desire SO much to give back!! And even beyond to others who I might find are suffering in their own trials. It's given me an eternal perspective of what really really really matters in life. And that is love, forgive, relationships, family and the overarching, glorious, completing gift of the Atonement.

Please give my love to Ron and your precious babies!!!

Love you!!  
Tiffany

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12/15/14

Hello my beloved son!!!

Thank you for your consistent letters!!! I am sorry I never got a letter off to you last week! I thought a about you "Every DAY!!!" And I sent a package your way! It is to be opened when you get it and used! A second package in envelope in envelope form is going out today, and a third should appear a little before Christmas. Yay!!! So much to celebrate!!! So much to do!!! I LOVE IT!!!

It sounds like you had a good week! You are on fire! It also sounds like you are meeting some very interesting people, and have lots of fun stories to tell. Everyone I talk to says they love reading your letters, you throw in such good stories!

This week has been crazy wonderful!!!! It has been full of joy, magic, fun, tender mercies, discoveries of past tender mercies, just a beautiful, joyful season to be alive!

Shelby and Grandma have been here and have been my hands and feet and making so many things happen! I've got four goals or projects that I'm working on I'm so excited about and one of them was your package. I'm so grateful for them and the timing of them coming out this week!!

One of my projects is I am recording books for my grandchildren on video and audio. The video is for a few holiday books like 'Twas the Night Before Christmas and The Polar Express. Now I am audio taping my voice reading picture books that I love and I know you children enjoyed as well. I want to send the book with the audio to each grandchild to start their libraries so they can sit in bed at night and open the book and listen to grandma made to them. I have recorded two books per year for the first five years already. Dad has created a website for me called Tiffany Janis.com, and he is putting up the audio and videos. The videos aren't complete, Shalayne is going to edit them and behind me, (I'll be in a bubble reading the book), and the picture of what I'm reading will be the background. Dad has already bought almost all the books for all the grandchildren. :-) It was a very big order but presents for our grandchildren are mostly paid for the first 10 years of their life! How awesome is that!! I have portraits of myself through my childhood that grandma has and gave to me in an album, and I want to take them and make wallet size copies and put them in the front cover of the book to show what I looked like when I was their age. I'm so excited about this! I've been wanting to do this for a long long time. And so I thought it would be good to do now just in case, but I can enjoy sending them through the years as well but I will have it all done!!

Another project or goal that I've had is to finish my Personal Progress. Shelby is in the stake young women presidency and knows the program online, and is helping me go through and we're knocking it out. I will probably have my Personal Progress medallion by the end of the year. I am so so excited!

My roommate Mei Li came all the way from Utah to visit me two weeks ago, and it was so fantastic to see her! We talked solid for four hours and I couldn't get enough and she couldn't get enough! This week my freshman roommate, Heidi, who just moved to Frisco, Texas is coming to visit. Frisco is north of Dallas.

I have been flooded with love this last week. I am getting texts, phone calls, and requests for visits daily. I can't keep up! :-) And I have to preserve my energy and I want to guard my time with Emily too. But I do feel that as people come in I can share my testimony and build their faith with the stories and tender mercies that have taken place in my life and I feel that this is part of the purpose of this whole experience.

I think the ward is bringing in dinners three times a week now. And I have a home care nurse, Jamie, who is so wonderful and comes every other day to drain my abdomen, and give me a bag full of fluid to help hydrate me, and just keep watch over me. She and the doctor she works with are helping me to manage pain nausea and sleeping as well. The Lord is my main physician right now. I am trying to listen to my body, and the Spirit, to know what I should do. I

feel that he has guided us, and provided everything we have needed to get me to this place, but he has not removed the cancer and so it's in his hands. My body is telling me I can't do very much of the therapy right now, so I am trying to live every day celebrating and eating happy things and thinking about goals and projects that I can do that keep me going and excited. I feel that my situation is like Gideon's in the Old Testament. The Lord reduced his army from 10,000 down to 300 to prove to everyone that there's no way except God who delivered them. I've done alternative therapies, I've done traditional therapies, and now I'm just putting my life in the Lords hands. He is the final decision maker. If it's my time to go it's my time to go. If not he will put flesh on my bones and heal me so that I can continue to fulfill my mission on earth. I feel very peaceful about this and it's giving me the freedom to just enjoy every moment and feel love. I think that love is the most important thing in the world and that's what were here to do: to learn how to love and I'm enjoying that so much!

So for the wedding, dad has chartered a private jet,... Yes, a private jet!!:) we will leave early in the morning, arrive 3 miles from the temple at a small airport, Roark will pick us up, and drive us to the temple. Ww will have the sealing and then have a little break, go to the luncheon, and then fly back home that night. It will be an exhausting day, but a wonderful day! These are tender mercies of Heavenly Father. Dad has always wanted to charter a jet but couldn't justify the cost until now. So he will get like this dream come true be able to justify it, and accomplish what needs to be done to help me the best. And the Lord is providing it! It's such a tender mercy! Our nurse, Jamie, is actually going to come with us on the trip because there's enough seating. She has a wheelchair that I will use as well. Last week Macall's parents were in a plane crash. Her dad has a private pilots license and I guess they were out cruising or something, and crashed. They are fine except her dad has been in ICU for I think a couple of really bad broken bones. So there may be three wheelchair is going into the temple of the parents of the bride and groom when they get sealed. Talk about opposition, right?

Okay, two funny stories. Two days ago Spencer ran out of gas right before he got to the gas station, so he called Emily to rescue him with the gas can. Later that night me and Shelby and Spencer were in the living room and Spencer said, "Man! Emily saved my butt today." Shelby turned to him and said, "I thought you said SHAVED my butt." And then I said, "That's what I heard too!" We had a really good laugh! :-)

The other one was when Grandma Scott came a couple of times ago it was Fast Sunday, and she was commenting on how the sacrament sometimes helps her take the edge off the fasting but the way she said it was more like it helps me feel a little full. And of course that was so funny!

I love you so much Taylor! You are such a light to the world in Arizona right now! I have so much feedback coming to me about you that is so very much emphatic how good of a missionary you are and it makes me so happy and proud! What a wonderful example you are! Sr. Bowman texted me last night and told me about the deacon you gave a signed tie to and then his friend you took your tie off for. That is so you, and such a marvelous lesson that they

will never forget! You are truly in the Lord's hands and he is working miracles through you! I LOVE IT!!!!!!!!!!!!!! I hope you have an incredible week again! Know you are in my thoughts and prayers and heart and I am cheering you on here in Katy, Texas!

Love, Mom

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12/18/14

[I (Damon) sent this to Tiffany as part of her Personal Progress work, she asked people, including me, for positive qualities we feel the Lord gave to Tiffany. I'm including it here because these qualities are part of the legacy she left us with.]

Here are some of the positive qualities the Lord has given you:

- Love of the Gospel
  - Love of truth
  - Love of others
  - Love of teaching
  - Strengthening others
  - Compassion for others
  - Understanding of others
  - Determination, especially in the face of opposition
- 

12/21/14

[From Jennifer Hansen on Tiffany's request for positive qualities...]

Good Morning Tiffany!

Thanks for inviting me to do this! It wasn't hard at all, in fact I loved thinking about all the things I love about you! Here goes:

Divine Qualities of Tiffany Janis

Pure Heart- Tiffany, you are one of the most pure hearted individuals I know. When I say that I don't mean you are perfect ( even though you are really close ). I mean one of your gifts is that your desire and your greatest goal is to do God's will. You are not driven by any motive other than LOVE..... love of family, love of others and love for your Heavenly Father and Savior Jesus Christ. That inner purity of motive is a gift and reflects outwardly. I have never heard you participate in gossip in fact you seem to always see the best in others and in your situation. You Tiffany are without guile!

Passion- Tiffany one of your greatest gifts is your passion. Your passion for Life, the gospel, your family and the things you believe in. Your passion drives you to be so creative in the

ways you live and share the gospel. I can imagine you were on the front lines in the battle in heaven being one of our Saviors most valiant supporters! I imagine the minute we started to sing, you were immediately singing praises to HIS name with vigor....on the front row!!! This passion fuels everything you do, it is felt by others and inspires those around you! I truly feel this passion which is very closely tied with the gift of Hope has kept you here and allowed you to endure your trials with grace and dignity!

Faith- You have a gift of faith. Everytime you have a chance to decide which way you will face, inward, outward or upward. You choose UP! You continually look to the Lord for direction, strength and clarity. Over and over you exemplify the willfull submission to the will of the Lord. Faith is a choice, one that you choose over and over again. You are unwavering. Even though you have expressed grief at different points in your life over challenges and trials you have never turned away from the Lord. You are a woman of prayer, fasting and you love the house of the Lord. This Faith is evident in the way you speak and the way you live!

Tiffany, I love you! These are just a few of the many gifts I see in you!

Love ,

Jennifer

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12/22/14

(Scott family)

Hi y'all!!! I got a text from Amy asking how I'm doing and I ended up writing way too long a text, so decided to email her and let you all know too! So here it is!

Yesterday was rough emotionally and physically, but had some REALLY HUGE highlights! It was our 27th year anniversary and we spent about 3 1/2 hours just together talking and sharing feelings. I got some really great Personal Prpgress done with Emily. We are BOTH getting our medallions the first Sunday in January!!!! Super happy!! I got to sacrament meeting but I think it pushed too hard, forgot to take my med before, so spent the rest of the day trying to catch up with pain. Drained another 800 ml of fluid. Our home teacher brought in the best anniversary dinner ever and didn't even know it was our anniversary. Last week as he walked out of priesthood, he was prompted to invite everyone in the ward a a couple of other wards to come carol at our house. At 7:00 last night they came. Damon told me what was going on and I'm glad he prepared me. I wanted everyone to come in our home, so when the knock came, I was on the couch end facing the door and I started waving them to come in. They hesitated because it was a huge crowd! Spencer had to make them! They filed in and filled the kitchen, family room, stairs , breezeway and entry. Then they sang several songs. There were 190 people they counted!!! It was so powerful!!!! Wow! The Spirit was there in full abundance!!! I know everyone was touched. When they left they ended up filing out and I was



able to see most of who came to thank them and hug them. When the Elders from another ward came by I asked if they could stay and give me a blessing. I also asked my Stake President, who had also come, and my home teacher family. The sisters are serving in our ward and they stayed too. I had one Elder administer oil and his companion blessed me. He was South American and I worried for 1 second about his language. Then I realized Lamanites have incredible faith and felt very happy, and then I could tell his accent was Brazilian! It armed my heart even more as another little tender mercy of the Lord to think of that little detail there. It was a beautiful blessing and gave me peace. Emotionally I had lost courage that day and he restored it.



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12/23/14

(Aunt Becky)

Becky, your TFTs have been such positive little happinesses every morning for me! I can't speak in words how amazing they have been and you are such a gem of a sister! There are so many people Who have found something that they can offer and it has been inspired and directed by Heavenly Father and you have been one of those instruments in the in his hands

to bring me comfort, peace, strength, and love each and every day! Thank you so much! I hope you have a very Merry Christmas, and birthday! I can't wait to see you on Saturday!  
Love, Tiffany

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12/23/14

(To Damon, Tiffany asked me to post this on her facebook page)

Sometimes Christmas time is not full of joy and merriment. Sometimes it's a hard time of the year. Lots of circumstances seem to drown out the holiday cheer. I was thinking about shepherds and three passages of scripture came to my mind and all three filled me with a sense of peace because shepherds know their sheep by name and are vigilant in watching over them.

"And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, *keeping watch over their flock by night*". (Luke 2:8)

"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul." (Psalm 23:1-3)

"I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.

I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine." (John 10:11,14)

I have felt the loving arm of The Good Shepherd this past year in abundance! I hope we all can feel that loving watch care in this beautiful season!

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12/23/14

[Tiffany's roommate from BYU days, Heidi Hastings, had a long talk with Tiffany on Dec 23, 2014. Heidi wrote down notes in her journal of what Tiffany shared with her in that conversation and shared them with me in May 2015. I asked if I could include them on Tiffany's website for our posterity and she was pleased to agree. So here they are :) ]

Hi Damon,

I found my notes from my last conversation with Tiffany, but have not yet found the notes from the first one. I'm pretty sure I didn't throw it away though.

On December 23rd these are my journal notes, along with a few other memories:

Even though Tiffany sounded much weaker than when I had talked to her a couple of weeks earlier, she told me she felt more alive than she had ever been! Missionary work was her new

purpose, and she wanted to have at least one person accept the gospel because of her influence. She wanted to blog more about her spiritual experiences and journey dealing with cancer. She wanted to follow Elder Bednar's call to use social media to spread the gospel. She felt like she could do that from her home.

Tiffany talked about how doing personal progress with Emily had been such a blessing in her life! She so longed for that YW medallion and was excited to be receiving it in a few days.

Psalms 41:1-3

Elder Hales talk from 2011 - Waiting on the Lord

Elder Wirthlin's talk on fasting and fast offerings, and how that blessed her family

Children's books - read and record audio for grandchildren. Put a picture inside each book of her at the age of the child. (she shared with me all about this project, so I was thrilled to see that you posted her recordings on her website!)

We talked about her bucket list. She wakes up excited to do the things that are full of purpose.

Pillars of light - Lean against Him with all your might and He will not let you go.

If Christ's will is to be swallowed up in the will of the Father, it should become my will also.

The Savior cares so much for those who are poor in Spirit.

Every Mothers' Day Eve, write a note to my children and put a rose in a vase near their bed. Tiffany talked so much about each of her beloved children. I felt as though I knew each of them!

Tiffany talked quite a bit about what she was planning to say to her nieces and nephews when she went to Utah for the wedding. She talked about the importance of covenants in providing protection, power and knowledge. After watching the video of that special time she spent with them, that is exactly what she taught.

We talked about some of our favorite books we had in common: The Infinite Atonement, The Hidden Christ (look at Proverbs), and In Times of Trouble by Elder Holland. Be still and know that I am God.

Tiffany really wanted to write in a journal for Damon before she died. She even sent Spencer out to buy one. She wanted it to be full of her telling him everything wonderful he has done.

She was worried that her handwriting would be too bad now, so we talked about some ideas how she could accomplish this.

Care packages for children's and women's shelter.  
Children's hospital gifts.

Tiffany told me about two books she had recently read: The Emotion Code and The Body Code.

The last thing we talked about was that she wanted me to find and read a talk on Healing Through Christ from BYU Women's Conference.

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12/24/14

[This was the last email Tiffany sent. She had sent Spencer this mother's day email a couple years earlier. She sent it to me on Christmas Eve and asked if I would print it so she could give it to Spencer on Christmas Day.]

Subject: mother's day letter to Spencer - could you print this tonight please?

Dear Spencer,

Happy Mother's Day! It is a wonderful day because I can celebrate the glorious fact that YOU are in my life and my son. I am so grateful to be your mother! And I am so proud of you!

This has been a really amazing year for you! You have grown in so many ways! First off, you have grown physically!:) You are a BIGGER boy this Mother's Day than last Mother's Day! But seriously, I know you have had goals and have worked incredibly hard to achieve them!!! Even though it drove me crazy (:D) I am totally impressed with your tenacity and drive.

You have also grown academically, learning so much and applying yourself to full-time university studies. And you got A's and B's!!! And all that plus playing football and reffing football. Yea for you!!!!!! And even coming home you learned all about electrical systems and how to get a home ready and rented. You have so much ability in all of those areas, Dad has so much confidence in you.

You've grown in leadership abilities, through being first assistant in the priest's quorum and then volunteering to lead in Biddulph Hall. You helped organize the scripture study and prayer group and also temple trips. I'm so impressed.

You have grown spiritually too. I could feel it as you came home last semester in your relationships with Taylor and Emily, plus the fact that you continued to (try to) have the scripture group with Brandon when you got home. You are preparing for your mission in all these ways: physically, mentally, spiritually.

You are such a wonderful son! I wish I had a rose for you this morning sitting by your bed. I haven't figured out how to do that, but maybe someday I will! I love you so much, you are so precious to me!

I hope you have a beautiful day!

With all my love!

Mom

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