

Tuesday - March 26

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. John 1:5

A few days before Christmas last year, I received a frantic phone call about one of my best friends from college. Her husband had gone into cardiac arrest and the situation was dire. They needed a miracle. I prayed on my hands and knees, crying out to God and begging for this needed miracle. The next morning, I traveled to North Carolina to be with my friend at the hospital while she waited at her husband's bedside. I have never witnessed another person experiencing such raw pain and grief. It was life altering to see. I rubbed her back and held her while she bravely asked difficult questions and made impossible decisions. That evening, her husband passed away. In an instant, my beloved friend became a widow at the age of 35 and is now a single mother to her two young boys.

How can these things happen? How are they allowed to happen? I've thought about these questions every day since. The answer is, I don't know. So, I must cling to the truths I do know. My friend is in the darkest season of her life. That is true. However, there is never darkness without light. That is also true. As followers of Jesus, it is both our duty and honor to be bearers of the light. To show up for people in real, tangible ways when they are broken. To hold them up. To not let darkness have the final word. To be a reminder that heaven finds a way.

Natalie Brown

Prayer: Dear God, We are often looking for the light when we and those we love are in seasons of deep sorrow. Help us to remember that the light, Your light, is in us. We are bearers of the light and are called to spread it to those in the darkness. Work in us and through us as we meet people in their darkest seasons and offer your light. Amen.