



SUPER 
SURVIVAL
Lessons from Death's Doorstep

RON MEYERS



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***Super-Survival:
Lessons from Death's Doorstep***

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First Edition

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Millard Parrish was most helpful in the many times the manuscript went back and forth through cyberspace even before Carrie Perrien Smith put the finishing touches on it.

I am grateful to God for the privilege of sharing with the broader body of believers the lessons I learned through my sickness. May His name be forever praised.

I have worked with Soar with Eagles three times before. This time was no exception. I was coached and encouraged as my work was improved with editing. Carrie Perrien Smith has come through again with a publication that is artistically attractive and a fine piece of literature from a literary standpoint. I am especially thankful for the interesting way she used artwork on the front cover to hint about the contents of the book. Thank you Carrie.

Ron Meyers
Tiberius, Israel
July 2013

MORE THAN A FOREWORD

Near the end of October 2010, Ron and I had just arrived at an apartment in Tiberius, Israel. We intended to rest there between trips to Africa where we work. Immediately, we began preparing for a five-week trip to Rwanda for a nationwide series of Leadership Empowerment Conferences. We were already weary, but Ron progressively experienced a more severe headache and felt sore like he had the flu. Instead of getting better as our trip drew closer, he became increasingly ill. He would feel better during the day, but the nighttime chills and fever kept intensifying. This was the prelude to our adventure with malaria. We did not know it yet, but we were in for a wild and scary ride.



A message from Ron Meyers' wife, Char.

We were scheduled to fly to Rwanda late Sunday night. Late Friday night brought a frightening round of Ron being so chilled, then burning up with fever. I e-mailed a friend who was a family physician in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He replied, "It could be the flu. But it sounds like malaria to me."

Malaria

Though it was now 1:30 in the morning, I told Ron what the doctor said and insisted we go to the emergency room. This was the wee

hours of Shabbat, the period of Sabbath from sundown to sundown. In Tiberius, the likelihood of finding a clinic or doctor anywhere but up on the hill in the Poriya Hospital was nonexistent. It was ten miles away.

I usually let Ron make these decisions, but it was now obvious he needed medical attention before we flew to Rwanda in less than forty-eight hours. To my relief, he agreed. "In the morning," he said. "Let's sleep now. Then we'll stop by the hospital before we go to the congregation meeting."

Ron is a good steward of God's financial resources and was concerned about the cost of the service. We had just made an expensive transition from South Africa. The next day (Sunday), we planned to head out of the country with our share of financial obligations. We did not want to use the cash we had budgeted for the trip.

Learning that it would cost about 300 NIS (Israeli shekels, roughly \$80 U.S.) to be seen by a doctor, Ron hesitated. But I insisted that if we were going to Rwanda, we had to have medicine for him to get well as we faced a grueling schedule ahead. He finally agreed and was admitted for testing and treatment.

We had the immediate attention of the doctor and other staff. It was quickly confirmed that he did indeed have malaria. The doctor wanted to admit him into the hospital for twenty-four hours of observation. But again, Ron hesitated. He asked, "How much is this going to cost?"

Ignoring his question, the doctor persisted, asking if he had any rash. No, neither of us thought he did. Not to be deterred, she took hold of his trouser legs and jerked them up, one after another. I gasped, "Look at that!" Both ankles were peppered! At that, Ron realized it was important to yield to the doctor's expertise.

Ron will detail the events that followed. The escalation of difficulties came at us suddenly like a roaring storm. It was another major challenge that called for our best efforts in faith and prayer!

When we turn back and ponder all that happened, we are very

aware it was only God who had us in the right place at that time. It was only God who spared us Ron's death and the destruction of his teaching ministry. It is only God who brought us out on the other side strong enough to pick up again and move on to our assignments in Africa.

You can imagine the warfare against our spirits as we went through these events. Yet, in spite of these challenges, I look back and realize God was preparing me, speaking to me in several unique ways even before Ron went to the hospital. Those encouragements from God are what carried me through.

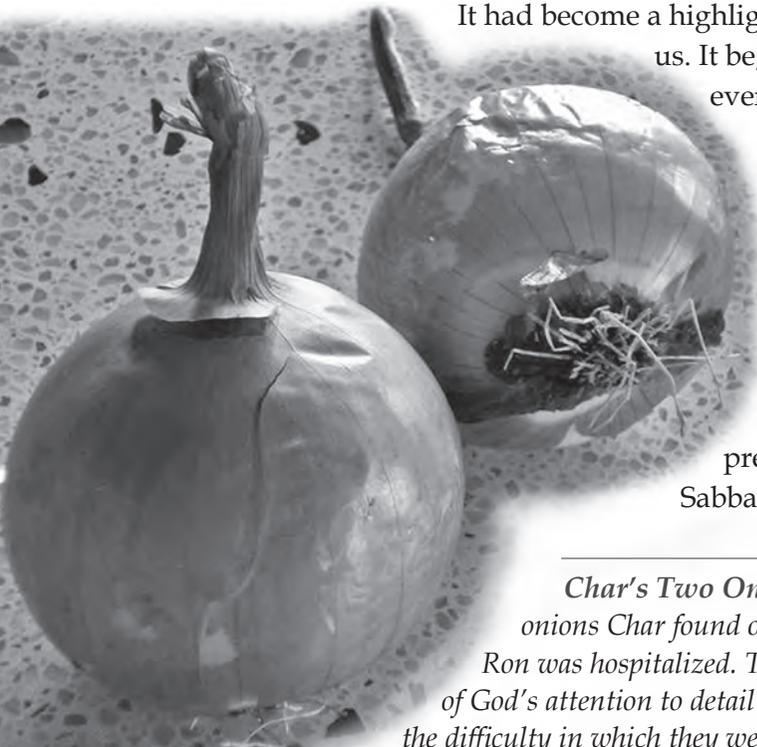
All I Needed Was an Onion

Friday morning, the day prior to our trip to the hospital, I headed out for my thirty-minute walk. I was already tired. And I was thinking about getting a few more groceries before that evening.

Shabbat is a significant celebration for the Israelis every weekend.

It had become a highlight of the week for us. It begins on Friday evening with supper.

Most businesses are closed on Saturdays, so traffic is heavy on Friday mornings as people do their last-minute shopping for the preparation of the Sabbath. Getting across



Char's Two Onions. These are the onions Char found on her walk on the day Ron was hospitalized. They were to her a sign of God's attention to detail and involvement in the difficulty in which they were engulfed.

town and in and out of grocery stores on Friday is never quick or easy. I groaned at the thought of having to do more shopping.

We had been invited to two different meals, one that evening and the other the following noon after worship. As I walked down the road, I moaned in my spirit, asking the Lord to give me grace. I lamented that maybe we should not have accepted the invitations when we were so busy.

Then I saw something in the middle of the road that hadn't been there just a few minutes earlier when I was walking the opposite direction.

Two onions! Really nice, solid and fresh, and not badly battered from having fallen in the street. I looked around. Certainly someone would be coming back to retrieve them. But there was no one anywhere nearby. What was I to do? I picked them up. With one in each hand, I fairly skipped all the way home. Continuing to think through my menus, I realized all I actually needed was an onion – one onion! God had provided more than enough!

Ron's warfare against death continued into Sunday, the second day. I carried the second onion to the hospital and set it on his bedside table. It said to me, "God is mindful; God is with us." He had provided the onions I needed without the extra burden of fighting traffic in and out of the stores. Surely He could take care of any other need; we just needed to trust Him.

Lessons

Ron and I have experienced some pretty difficult and long, drawn-out trials. The lessons we learned were always to be patient, to wait on the Lord, and to let Him do the fighting for us over a period of time. As Ron has written in this book, and earlier in *Habits of Highly Effective Christians*, it is important that we learn lessons from our experiences and let those lessons shape our lives for the future.

However, never had we been in such sudden and intensely terrifying circumstances as we faced now. Still, what we learned

from those previous lessons continued to sustain us through these dark, turbulent hours. Little did we know, though, the significant lessons that we were about to learn through this ordeal.

I am married to a wonderful, godly man. He never lets a good lesson go to waste. And his commitment to apply the lessons to our life together has enabled us to become stronger over all our years of married life.

As Ron came out of his medically induced coma four days later, God began to show him lesson after lesson. He received a series of revelations during the recovery from the ravishing of the enemy in his body. They make up the heart of this book. He originally brought all these lessons together and outlined the chapters in his thoughts while he still lay flat on his bed in the intensive care unit. He knew these lessons were too good not to share.

As you read about our experiences and brushes with the searing attack of a vicious enemy and the gracious protection and enlightenment of a loving God, may the Holy Spirit encourage you as you face your next life-battle.

Char Meyers

INTRODUCTION

In 2006, my wife, Char, and I decided to commit the last years of our lives to training Christian leaders in the cities of Africa. We resigned our positions, sold our home and cars in Tulsa, and began a wonderful journey throughout Africa, traveling and conducting Empower Africa Christian Leadership Conferences. Over the years since then, we have met and worked with some of the most wonderful people, often in larger cities and at other times in smaller cities in remote regions throughout the continent.

Travel into the interior regions is difficult and dangerous to one's health – especially with rampant malaria and other diseases throughout Africa. In order to relate better with the people, we intentionally stay in the homes of our hosts,

“Travel into the interior regions is difficult and dangerous to one's health – especially with rampant malaria and other diseases throughout Africa.”

rather than in hotels. We also use local means of transportation. This contact with the people is an extremely rewarding learning opportunity. God has given us amazing friends in many countries.

However, this lifestyle takes quite a toll on our bodies, indeed every part of our being. Normally after a series of seminars over a month or two, we have retreated to a rented apartment in Pretoria,

South Africa for a time of rest, refreshing, and regrouping. These times are absolutely necessary for our continuation in this work.

Recently, however, we have received invitations to conduct conferences in India and other parts of Asia. People in Europe are also contacting us. This drove our decision to begin taking rest and recovery times between work trips in Israel instead of Pretoria. This location allows us to travel with equal ease to Africa, Asia, or Europe.

In September 2010, we began our first such retreat in the town of Tiberius in Israel. It is a lovely town on the shores of the Kinneret, known to many as the Sea of Galilee. While working to prepare for this and future visits, we were also recovering from the recent and difficult strains of traveling in sub-Saharan Africa. And, at the same time, we were preparing ourselves for our next series of conferences scheduled for Rwanda in November and December.

Most tourists vacationing in Israel do not spend twelve days in a hospital fighting for their lives. That would not have been my choice either. But an excellent hospital very near Tiberius is where miracles took place, bringing me back from numerous life-threatening illnesses.

It is a high privilege to be enriched by difficulties, assess one's life and value system at a deep level, and then remain alive to act on what was learned. Each of the following chapters is my attempt to share some of the unique lessons that became clear to me through this most difficult, yet wonderful, experience.

These lessons may not be new to you, but they may provide an opportunity to review some valuable old lessons and deepen their impressions. It will be well worth recording my personal experience if you can gain insight into these lessons and benefit without going through such pain yourself. This is my personal story and some of the lessons I learned, or re-learned, through the crucible that almost killed me.

Char and I are so grateful for the medical team and attendants God

used to spare my life and restore my health. As you look through Chapter 10: The Journey, you will see a collection of photos taken with many of these key people.

You can also see a series of x-rays that demonstrate the progression of the infection in my lungs, and then its regression. You will see the hand of God and the skill of a great medical team that turned the tide and snatched me from an early death.

Finally, many concerned and praying friends all over the world journeyed with me during these twelve days. It is sobering now to realize that people were fasting and praying for my recovery even as I struggled to stay alive hour by hour. Their communications with Char and our son Dan (who came from Canada to be with us) are also key factors in this story. I feel a great deal of gratitude for each one of them. Some of the notes they sent are especially uplifting. They are also included in Chapter 10.

For a few days, life for me could have gone either way. I could have died of malaria and resultant complications at age sixty-six. Indeed just a week prior to my experience, a twenty-nine-year-old lady, who had also contracted malaria, returned to Israel and died.

Why did God spare me?

Hopefully, the following pages will partially answer that question.



1

ISRAEL: INITIAL OBSERVATIONS

Years ago, before modern Israelis drained mosquito-infested swamps, Israel had a problem with malaria. Today, they still know how to effectively treat it. Israel is not, however, where I contracted malaria. It is where I was healed.

Ever since visiting Israel and particularly Tiberius in 2006, Char and I have especially liked the Galilee area.

Tiberius is a small city on the west side of the Kinneret (the Sea of Galilee). It is sometimes called simply “the lake.” It is a tourist attraction in the northern part of Israel. The pace there is slower than the busy and highly religious Jerusalem or the racy, spicy, and modern Tel Aviv. One attraction is Tiberius’ hot spring that continues to attract some of the Israeli and foreign tourists.

The trip on Highway 77 offers the first glimpse of the Kinneret as travelers cross over the crest of the hill at Poriya Junction. From there, the entire valley is visible, including the mountains on the east side. The scene is breathtaking. About three-quarters of the way down the hill, travelers reach sea level. The road leads to the lake, which is 209 meters (685 feet) below sea level.

The Romans selected this location centuries ago as a center for military activities and the administration of their colonies in the Middle East. Today near the Tiberius city-center, the large rocks

used in Roman fortifications, buildings, and city walls still stand. They add a kind of romantic mystique to the city.

Jesus based much of His ministry in the northern part of Israel, especially in the Galilee area. This makes the Sea of Galilee an attractive holy site for Christians from all over the world to visit. Nigeria, for example, has a policy of helping their citizens make trips to holy sites abroad. Many Nigerians choose to travel to Mecca, but an average of 23,000 visit Israel each year.

In September and October 2010, Char and I were enjoying a rest period in Israel between our ministry assignments in Africa. We had completed a most exhausting assignment in the two Congo Republics followed by some time in South Africa. We were preparing for our next series of conferences in Rwanda in November and December.

We spent about six weeks in Tiberius preparing our vacation apartment for future use and regrouping. It was now the end of October. We were scheduled to fly all night on October 31 to Rwanda for our next series of leadership conferences.

However, I had recently become plagued by headaches that would not stop. My muscles ached. I experienced real discomfort for four days. Usually I am able to shake off a cold or the flu in about three days, but not this time. For several nights in a row, I experienced extreme cold chills and could not get warm. I was wearing warm winter pajamas under blankets and hugging a hot water bottle. Char even got in bed with me just to help me generate heat. I later broke out into a high fever, sweating profusely. That fourth day of feeling particularly ill (Friday, October 29), I realized I had something more serious that was causing severe and lingering symptoms. We decided it was time to get medical attention.

During the night, Char wrote to a friend of ours in Tulsa, Oklahoma who was a medical doctor. He concurred with Char's hunch that I had malaria. I was skeptical. I had regularly taken Larium, a malaria preventative or protector from contracting the disease. It had worked well for both Char and me during the previous four years

we had been conducting leadership conferences in sub-Saharan Africa.

After leaving a malaria-infested area, we normally continue to take Larium as prescribed for several more weeks. Larium prevents malaria and also kills the newly hatching eggs that can produce another generation of the bacteria. Continuing to take the medicine prevents further malaria by dealing with the next generation before it matures.

Contrary to our usual practice, however, we had stopped taking the Larium this time just after we departed from the Congos.

The next morning
(Saturday, October 30)

marked the fifth day of solid headaches and body pain. It was the day before we were scheduled to travel to Rwanda. Char and I stopped at the emergency unit of the Baruch Padeh Medical Center in Poriya. The hospital was located at the top of the hill above Tiberius to the south and west. Poriya could almost be considered a suburb of Tiberius.

We were on our way to worship that Shabbat (the Sabbath or Saturday). I thought I would get needed medicine and stay with the Rwanda schedule. However, to my disappointment, I was moved from the emergency unit to the hospital proper. Little did we know that the struggle for life was just beginning. I would

“I thought I would get needed medicine and stay with the Rwanda schedule. However, to my disappointment, I was moved from the emergency unit to the hospital proper. Little did we know that the struggle for life was just beginning. I would remain in that hospital for twelve traumatic, difficult, and wonderful days.”

remain in that hospital for twelve traumatic, difficult, and wonderful days. Before it was over, I would be moved from the internal medicine unit to the intensive cardiac care unit, intensive care unit, and then back to the internal medicine unit for the last three days in the hospital.

I cannot boast about or acclaim the staff at the Poriya hospital enough. They are skilled, professional, competent, and business-like. And beyond that, they are extremely caring and helpful. Judging from their attitude and demeanor, they did not perform their duties begrudgingly or with a mere sense of obligation. Rather, these hospital staff members put their hearts into their work.

The staff is made up of a wide variety of ethnic and religious backgrounds. There are Jews, Moslems, and Christians from Europe, North America, Russia, Africa, and Israel — all are part of the colorful social mosaic. In the hallways, hospital rooms, and patients' dining rooms, I saw Jewish people, each with their own *kippah* or *yarmulke* (a small, round cap placed on the top of the head). I also saw Arabs with their traditional garb, flowing white robes and distinct headwear. I saw others dressed as one would see in any western nation today. In the hospital, everyone worked together in apparent harmony.

We had already noticed similar harmony in the city of Tiberius (a largely Jewish community) and also in nearby Nazareth (a largely Arab and partly Christian city). The various ethnic and religious cultures seem to live and mingle quite peaceably in both of these northern Israeli cities. In the hospital, I witnessed that they also work together happily and cooperatively as well. And patients are all treated equally well, regardless of ethnicity, religion, or economic condition.

What I had read in the world press was so different from the reality I found and experienced! I came away from my twelve-day adventure at Baruch Padeh Medical Center in Poriya with the sense that Israel should receive better treatment in the world's propaganda wars. It is sad the press doesn't tell of the real Israeli

life that I observed each day in the intensive care unit. If they would, the people of the world would have a far more accurate and positive impression of Israel's lifestyle, living standard, work ethic, and peaceful happiness together.

I am not a journalist; I am a teacher. But if I were a news writer, I would take up this theme in my reporting. I hope I can make it clear that Char and I both are quite favorably impressed with what we have seen of the people and lifestyle of Israel.

Learning about Israel firsthand from a hospital bed forced me to examine the unfairness of judging a place and a people without direct personal contact. We cannot trust the world press for accurate representation of a nation and its people. The press emphasizes negative information to make dramatic newscasting. It's too bad that positive news is considered mundane.

But, as I have seen it, it is possible for people of different ethnic and religious backgrounds to live together in harmony. These are a few of my thoughts as I contemplate the difference between the Israel I saw in the hospital and the Israel one sees or reads about in the world media.

What I learned about Israel during this experience is only one of the many lessons learned over those twelve days. There were also other major lessons God helped me understand during my struggle.



10 THE JOURNEY

Saturday, July 24, 2010, Char and I traveled from the Congos to Pretoria having completed two exhausting months of conference work. Fast-forward a couple of months. We departed from Pretoria on the evening of Monday, September 13, headed for Israel for a break. We arrived in Tiberius via Tel Aviv the following evening. The Foreword and Chapter 1 provide the details of the days leading up to my hospitalization.

This part of the book chronicles the days after my hospitalization. We've woven together the photos, x-rays, and well wishes from those who love and support us and our work.

It was very disappointing to have to cancel/postpone our five weeks of seminars scheduled in Rwanda. As you can tell from this book, I do not give up easily. Nevertheless, the brethren there wrote a number of encouraging notes to us.

As you look at the x-rays, you'll notice the color change. Cloudiness or white areas represent fluid and mucus. The more cloudy or white the area, the more fluid and mucus that was present. You will be able to see the progression as my lungs filled up more and more during the first several days. Observe the progress as the medications and the power of God reversed the process during the following days.

I've included the dates on the x-rays. They will help you appreciate how quickly this occurred. The whole process was over in just twelve days.

Saturday, October 30

We arrived about 9:30 a.m. at the emergency unit of the Baruch Padeh Medical Center in Poriya on our way to worship nearby. We were scheduled to depart on October 31 for a conference series in Rwanda that ran from November 1 to December 6. After extensive blood tests, an x-ray, and being given a preliminary diagnosis of malaria, I was admitted to the internal medicine unit of the hospital. I seemed to be okay as I sat up and chatted with visitors.

The prayers, encouragement, and support we received from family and friends around the world during my illness and recovery were much more than we could have imagined. We are blessed, humbled, and full of gratitude to all who prayed for us and wrote to us during this time. In many ways, the victory in which we now walk is theirs – yours – as well.

We could never be able to share all the e-mails and Facebook posts that came our way. And it has been painful to have to be selective. For all who wrote, please rest assured that we will be eternally grateful for you.



Emergency Entrance. This photo was taken the next day after release from the hospital when I am clean-shaven again. This is the entrance to our adventure in the Poriya Hospital via the emergency room.

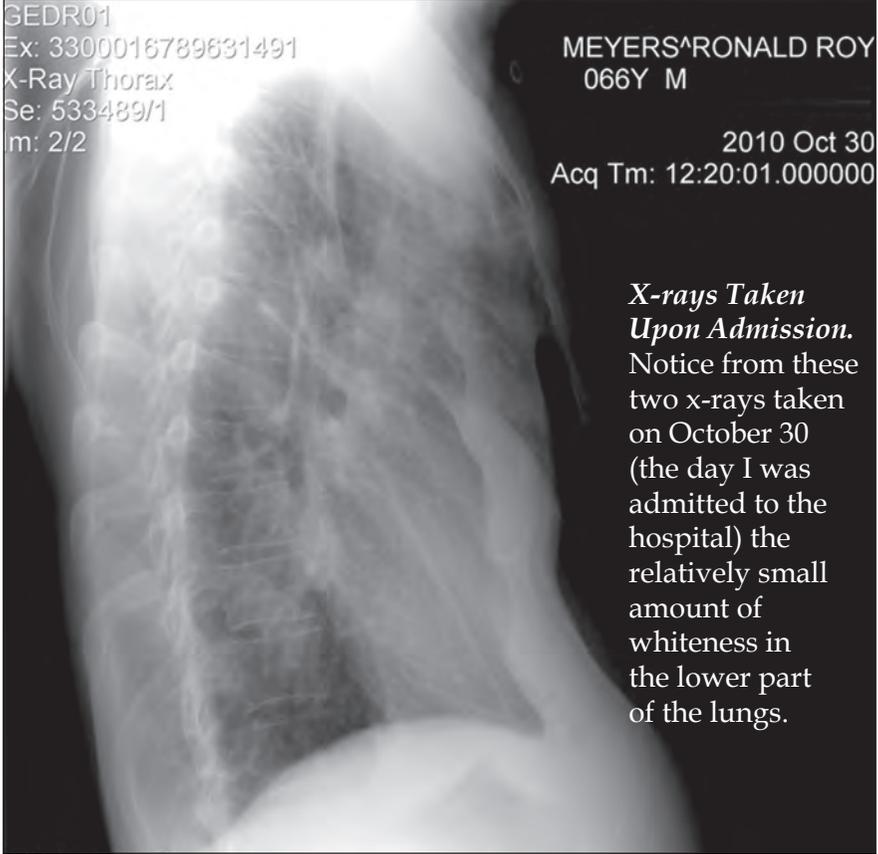


Emergency Technician (left). This technician has exceedingly nimble fingers and good dexterity. He took six samples of blood in about one minute.

Original Receptionist (right). Ruth is the kind, English-speaking lady who helped us with emergency room entrance procedures on October 30.



Char and I with the Emergency Doctor. This was taken the day of my release from the hospital. This Russian doctor served in the emergency ward the day I arrived. She was later stationed in the internal medicine ward where I was when I was released.

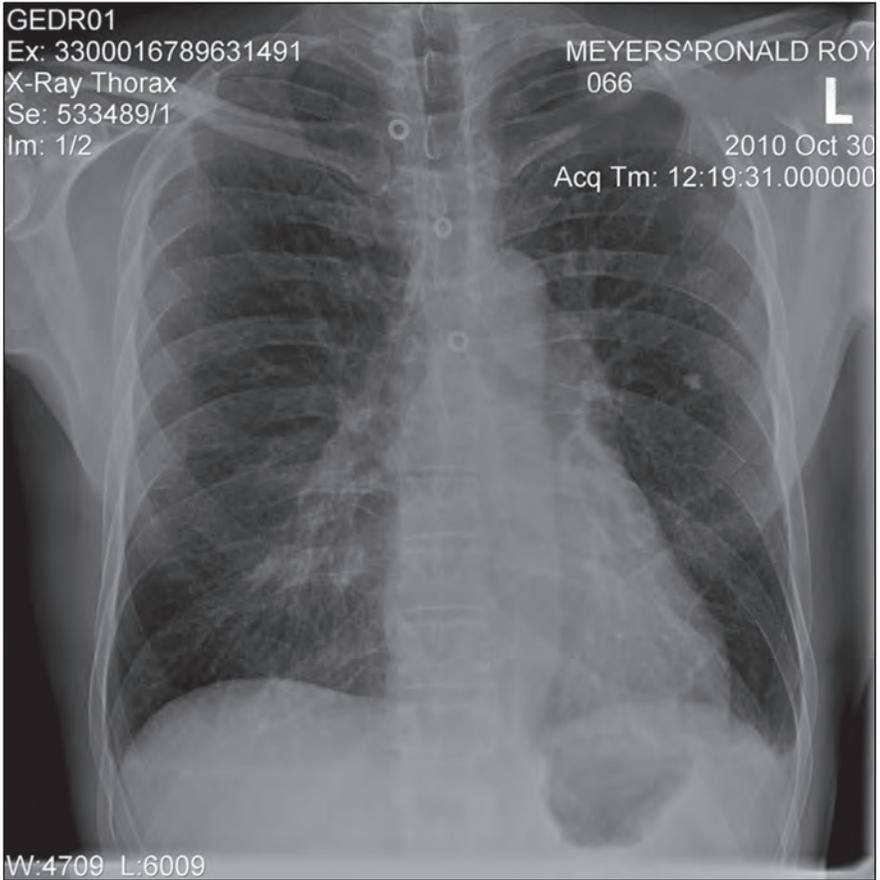


A note from Ananias in Rwanda:

Dear Char and Ron,

We are very touched by Ron's health situation but the will of God will turn to reality.

There is no fear or discouragement because we strongly believe that our God is in control. We are praying for you all. Let's wait for the good will of God our Father. I don't personally have any problem with getting the convention postponed. I believe God has a different and sweet plan/will for all of us. We will see the tremendous treasure that God reserves for us in the future. Surely we will love it.



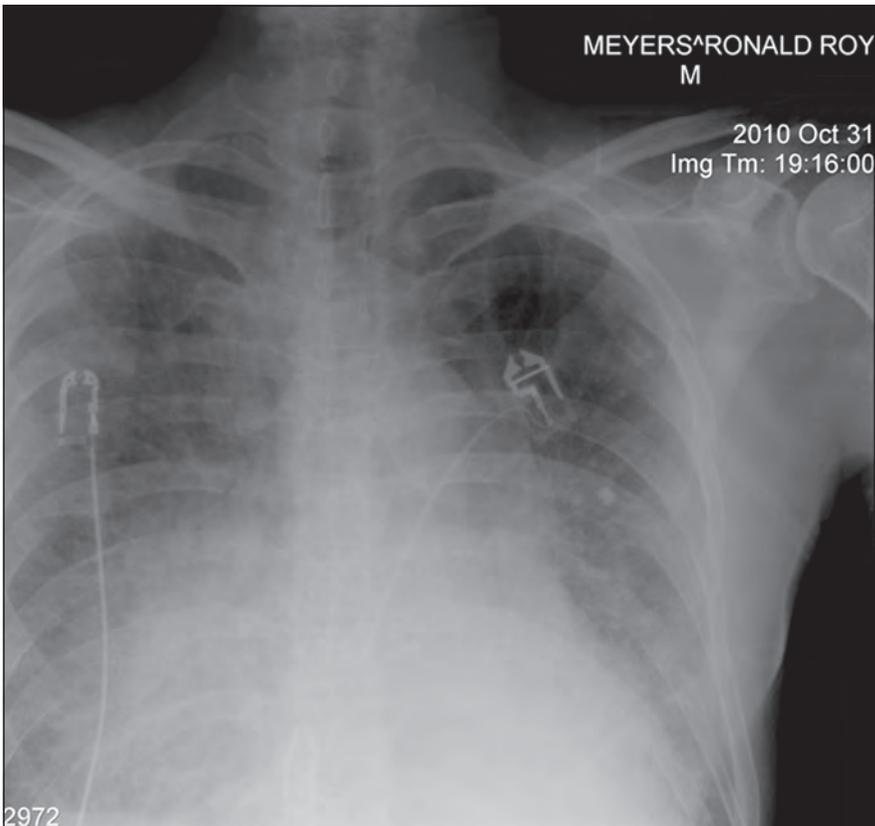
Ananias also sent the words of the following hymn:

O love that will not let me go,
I rest my weary soul on thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
That in thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.

O joy that seekest me through pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
And feel the promise is not vain
That morn shall tearless be.

Sunday, October 31

I spent the day declining in strength and the ability to breathe. By evening, I was gasping for each breath and breathing very quickly. Attempts to affix a mask to my face brought terror to me. I really worked to cooperate, but I was not receiving enough air. I was moved to the intensive cardiac care unit (ICCU) where I was given oxygen and then morphine to calm me. I slept through the night. Throughout the night, Char made several calls to the ICCU. Each time, nurses reported I was resting.



Evidence of My Deteriorating Condition. Notice the increased amount of whiteness on October 31 (the second day).



Before Coma. I have been diagnosed with malaria but do not yet know that I have extensive pneumonia in both lungs that later precipitates acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS). I am seriously ill, and my condition is deteriorating.

And from other brothers and sisters in Rwanda:

Dear Char,

Greetings in Christ's name. I hope God is hearing our prayers. We are together with you though we are far physically. But be assured of our prayers. May we know the progress of how Dr. Ron is feeling? I hope we may one day see him face to face! May the hand of God be upon you all.

Mike

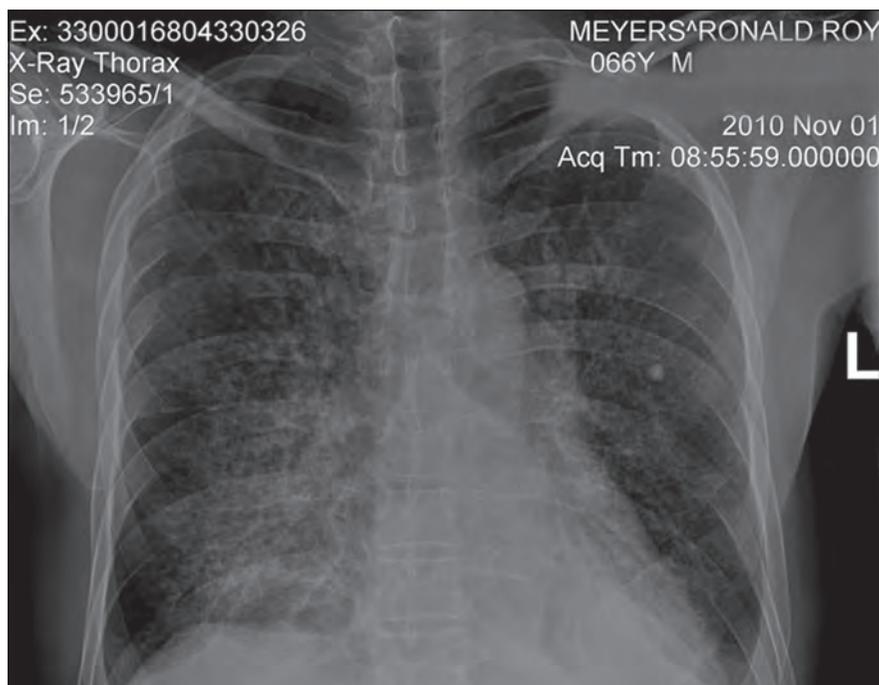
We also received many e-mails from friends in other African nations outside of Rwanda:

I have called my family and my team and pastor friends, and we are praying for that mighty man of God. God is his Boss and is in control. Please, Char, let me know how the change is coming in his body.

Pierre

Monday, November 1

In the morning, I seemed to be improving and was moved to the intensive care unit (ICU) so they could continue to monitor my vital signs. This day, three x-rays were taken: two in the morning and one in the evening. As the afternoon progressed, I struggled more and more to breathe. The doctor informed me that in addition to pneumonia, I also had acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS). I called Char to tell her. About 8:30 that evening after my visitors who had come to pray for me left, I was told I would be put to sleep and that I would wake up with ventilator tubes in my throat. I went into a medically induced coma for about forty-six hours. During the second hour of the coma, I experienced on-again, off-again ventricle tachycardia – in my case, a heart rate of 200 beats per minute.



The Third Day. This x-ray was taken the evening of November 1. It indicates a significant increase of fluid and mucus gathered during just that one day.

AFTERWORD

Super-Survival is a word I made up, but you have probably already guessed its meaning. It means *beyond survival, more than survival, moving beyond mere recovery to becoming a better person than we were before the crisis.*

My friend, I was walloped with an extreme sickness. I almost went home to be with the Lord. Char almost became a widow. My life's work was almost cut off, to remain incomplete forever. As I lay physically beaten up, taken down, and hammered by thousands of malaria bacteria, my body almost succumbed to a mighty pestilence.

The key word here is *almost*. Those things almost happened, but they didn't.

Inside that broken, wounded, and battered body was a spirit fully focused on God. I communicated with God most of those hours. Not only did I come through, I experienced improvement, refinement, training, and softening. I learned how to pray, listen, and learn at a new depth.

The observations I share in these chapters cost a pretty price. I am sorry it takes such hardship to learn what I learned, but I am not willing to walk away without learning something valuable. I would not want to pay that price and come away from the trial only to remain the same. I will strive to become better for it. I claim improvement and so can you. I must. You must.

God's purpose for the hardships we experience is our personal

character development. Moving beyond mere recovery to developing godly moral fiber is far more important than regaining physical strength. In the eternal scope of things — in God’s eyes — genuine moral fortitude is the quality God seeks to develop in us. This is how we can become real superheroes.

Each of the nine chapters has focused on one major lesson God taught me toward becoming a super-survivor. My reflections on these lessons along with my sickness and time in the hospital have convinced me that each of us has opportunities to become a super-survivor. We have the ability and potential not only to survive, but

“Why not strive for greatness and be all you can be? God does not bring us through His training program for our development just barely, but rather triumphantly.”

to thrive and become an enriched person. Why not strive for greatness and be all you can be?

God does not bring us through His training program for our development just barely, but rather triumphantly. We can grow, learn, and be enriched because of it. Satan may mean the difficulty for harm, but God will use it for good if we let Him.

Reversals will occur. You too have and will experience difficult and even impossible situations. Yet we

must learn how to hang on to God and use the situation to our advantage rather than let the enemy toss us around and rough us up at will. Through faith, confidence, prayer, and a teachable spirit, we will do more than just survive.

I write about what I learned from my twelve-day experience in the Poriya Hospital with the hope that you too will become a super-survivor. I want to learn these lessons more perfectly. If we learn how to learn, we can experience super-survival. We can and must learn from observation and experience.

The person who has learned how to learn from experience will ask,

“What do I learn from this?” instead of complaining, “Why did this happen to me?” He or she can continue to learn, grow, develop, and become a better person every year. The idea of learning from observation and experience is more fully developed in the first two chapters of *Habits of Highly Effective Christians* that I wrote some years ago.

May God grant to you the grace to experience this repeatedly each time you meet a reversal. God bless you, my fellow super-survivor. Let’s move forward together.

You might like to know how I am doing now, physically, and how God has used the postponement of our ministry in Rwanda for His greater glory.

First, I want to thank God for all our precious friends who helped to sustain us through prayer during our dark trial while in the hospital, and even since. In many cases, I have been able to personally thank those who prayed with us through our dark valley. In other cases, I hope friends will receive my heartfelt expression here in print.

Physically, I continue to advance in my recovery. I am increasing the regimen to running an hour every two days and doing my weight-lifting routine with free weights on days I don’t run. I don’t run as fast as I used to because the sickness evidently affected my lungs. And even though I take less heart medication than when I was first released from the hospital, I am still on low doses of sedatives to quiet my heart. But I can run hard; and when I find mountains near wherever I travel, I remain challenged by them.

This is now two and a half years after my experience in Poriya Hospital. Just a year after my sickness, Char and I completed two months presenting eight different conferences, a special series, and a convention in Rwanda . We were well received. We know God has a plan for our continued fruitfulness since He spared my life. Our travel and conference schedule is continuing and now includes India and Russia. We call the conferences Leadership Empowerment

Conferences now. Though still active in Africa, we also travel to Europe and Asia, not just Africa.

Yours for Super-Survival!

Ron Meyers

Tiberius, Israel

July 2013

About the Author Ron Meyers



Ron Meyers was born in 1944 and raised in a pioneer pastor's home. In July 1965, he began pastoral ministry as a student pastor in a rural community seventy miles from the Bible College he attended in mid-Ohio.

From 1996 until 2006, he served as the Professor of Missions and Coordinator of the Master of Arts in Missions program in the School of Theology and Missions of Oral Roberts University. During those years, Ron traveled to African, Asian, European, and Middle Eastern nations during his summer breaks from university responsibilities.

He, with his wife, Char, have served more years outside the United States as pastors in Canada and missionaries in Korea, China, and Africa than their years in the U.S. Since January 2007, Ron and Char have lived in Africa, then Israel, and have traveled full-time to African, European, and Asian nations conducting Leadership Empowerment Conferences. Ron has a PhD in Intercultural Studies and Char has an EdD. The Meyers have two adult sons, one daughter-in-law, and eight grandchildren.

TOOLS FOR LEADERS

Leadership Empowerment Resources Website



This website provides additional resources for Dr. Meyer’s mission work abroad. It includes information on:

- **Books:** Resources written by Ron Meyers for expanding your wisdom and knowledge to use in any way that serves your purpose in helping to enrich the lives of Christians you know
- **Leadership Empowerment Conferences:** Ron and Char Meyers’ Africa-based vehicle for strengthening His Church by training the leaders of churches
- **Treasure Hunt:** A Christian conversational game intended to be a catalyst for drawing out practical wisdom and understanding – treasures – from the hearts of Christians who enjoy wholesome conversational fun.



Visit the Website

To read the code, download the QR Reader app for your cell phone and scan it.

www.LEResources.com

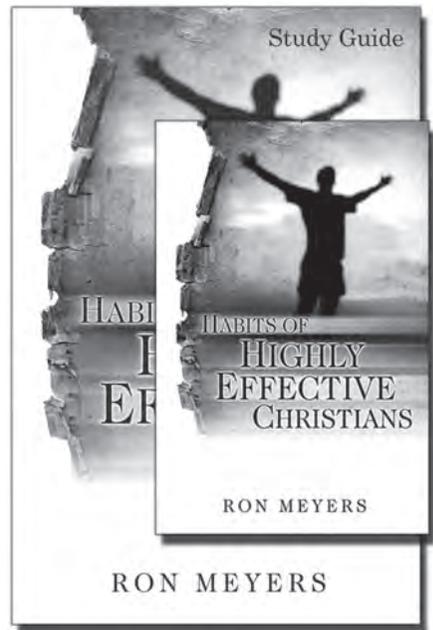
OTHER BOOKS BY RON MEYERS

Habits of Highly Effective Christians Book and Study Guide

Habits of Highly Effective Christians Makes a Great Bible Study Program

When Ron Meyers followed his passion for international missions work forty years ago, he never imagined the rich educational curriculum God had in store for him. A lifetime of spiritual challenges groomed him for his role at the School of Theology and Missions at Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Then, after ten years educating Christian ministry candidates at ORU and serving as Coordinator of the Master of Arts in Missions program, he and his wife moved to Africa where they now train pastors and missionaries throughout the southern African nations.

Meyers wrote his book with life application in mind. He weaves his stories into each habit by providing real-life, insightful, and applicable examples. *Habits of Highly Effective Christians* guides you



through biblical resources for creating a rich tapestry with the fibers of your own life.

A Great Tool for Growth and Discussion

Proven to create rich discussions, *Habits of Highly Effective Christians* is perfect for small-group Bible studies or college classroom discussions. Meyers has also written the *Habits of Highly Effective Christians Study Guide*. Together, this study combo will etch biblical principles on every aspect of the lives you encounter.



Books and e-books by Ron Meyers are available at online bookstores.

Quantity discounts are available by contacting Soar with Eagles (www.soarhigher.com).

OTHER BOOKS BY RON MEYERS

Rise to Seek Him: The Joy of Effective Prayer

Allow God to Do Immeasurably More in Your Life

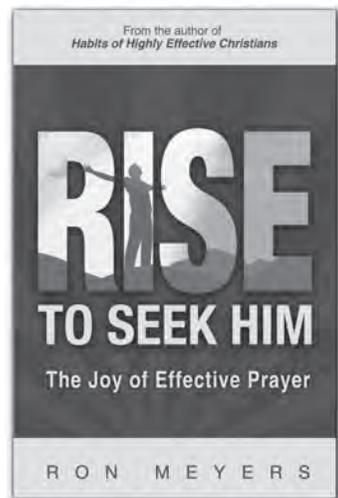
Effective prayer is more about becoming useful tools in God's hands than imposing our plans and desires on Him. In *Rise to Seek Him*, we learn that we accomplish much more when God uses us through prayer than when we try to use God to accomplish our objectives.

This is not just another book on prayer. Ron Meyers invites you to experiment for yourself how God can accomplish "immeasurably more" than you could ever ask or imagine. This book reveals fresh insights about the meaning of prayer — insights that were in the Bible all the time.

Rise to Seek Him offers practical solutions to the questions we all ask:

- How do we discipline ourselves to pray?
- How can we know what to pray for?
- Why is it difficult to pray?
- What is the focus of prayer?
- Does prayer really "work?"

This book testifies to the expansion in influence, effectiveness, and success possible with increased personal prayer.



As in *Habits of Highly Effective Christians*, Meyers again describes self-discipline as a fruit of the Spirit to increase personal spiritual growth and improvement in public ministry. God-fearing Christians of any vocation who are serious about serving God at maximum levels of effectiveness will benefit from this book.

OTHER BOOKS BY RON MEYERS

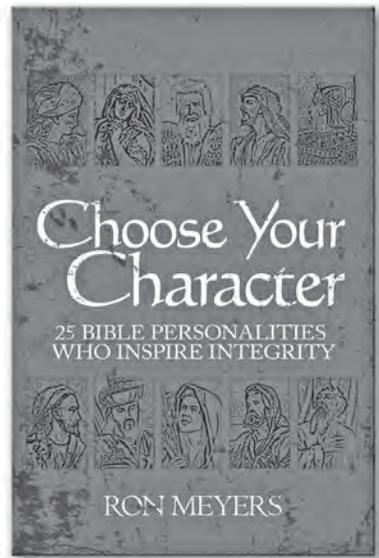
Choose Your Character: 25 Bible Personalities Who Inspire Integrity

Powerful Lessons in Integrity

The writers of the Bible speak to us with their words, and the Bible's characters speak to us with their lives. Their powerful examples reveal the spiritual inspiration and brilliant insight the human writers and the divine Writer intended. Times, cultures, traditions, and societal values may change from century to century, but human nature does not.

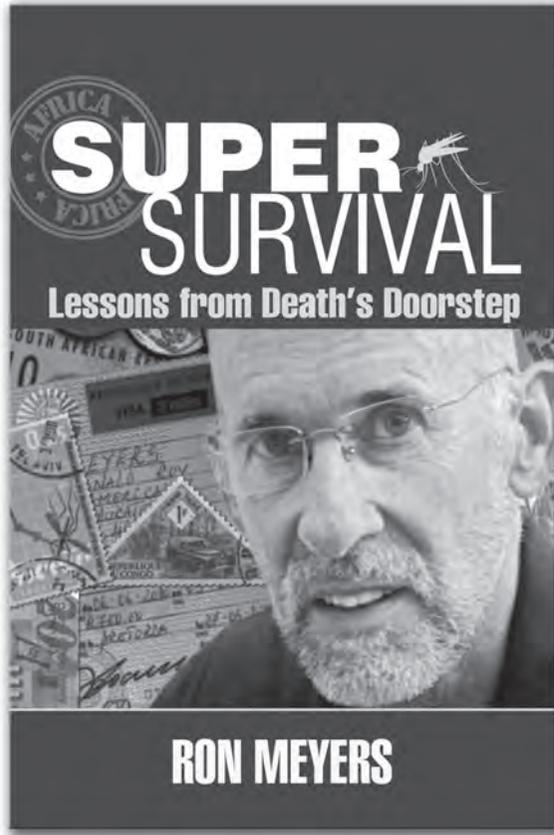
We value people whose words and actions reflect their true thoughts and intentions. People of integrity purposely integrate their own thoughts, words, and behaviors. They work at making their own hearts and minds, thoughts and ideas consistent with the godly character portrayed in Scripture.

These twenty-five Bible personalities in *Choose Your Character* cultivate a desire to deepen the commitment to live a life of unflinching integrity. Their examples teach us how to increase our personal satisfaction and effectiveness while strengthening our ability to influence others.



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