

Sequel to *Journey to the Veil* from  
the best-selling author of *Visions of Glory*



# Journey to the VEIL II

Path of Discipleship

by JOHN PONTIUS

Compiled by Terri Pontius

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Love and UnRegrets

# Chapter One

## Our Glorious Foundation

### A Thunderclap of Joy

**A**s this year came into being, I had the thought enter my mind that this year was going to be filled with opportunities to meet with people, do firesides, and openly rejoice.

I lived in Alaska for thirty-three years until recently. During most of that time, the Lord kept my involvement in such things uncomplicated. Those were years of service and silence. There are people who have known and rubbed shoulders with me for thirty-three years who have no idea that I have even written a book. In that time I gave fewer than a dozen firesides, and most of those were here in Utah. One of the hardest things I did in Alaska was to be quiet—not by choice but as a matter of obedience.

It seems as if—at least for the next little while—the Lord has lifted the bushel off my little light. I find it sweet and liberating, even a little intimidating. Writing this UnBlog is very atypical of my past. I think the title “UnBlog” is even a quiet acknowledgment of the relief I feel in this new direction. I hardly feel adequate but sense that my spiritual pressure gauge is no longer red-lined.

What I know and have to say is not vast or earth-shaking. But apparently it is timely, which thrills me, because the greater majority of what the Lord has given me to know, and now apparently to say, is directly aimed at personally claiming the fullest blessings the restored gospel offers. It is about the building of the latter-day Zion and personally preparing for the return of Christ.

When it comes to timing and being prepared, that is one event you don't want to be caught clipping your fingernails by the light of a lamp about to run out of oil.

It may be that what separates me from traditional thinking is that I am apparently too unsophisticated to realize that just because Enoch, or Abraham, or Mahonri Moriancumer did something, that I can't do it too. I just believe such things. It seems perfectly reasonable to me that if Peter raised the dead, or walked on the water, that one day I will, too. And it can happen on either side of the veil, according to the Lord's will.

I wasn't always this way. Somewhere years ago, when the path was wide and comfortable, it occurred to me that not only is the gospel of Jesus Christ true, but it works. It works the same today as it did in the days of Adam, or Enoch, or Jesus Christ. The gifts and privileges and powers of those days are fully operable today. We just need to believe them and then experience them. This didn't come to me as an insight; it came to me as an observation—as experiential truth.

When spiritual pilgrims realize that the gospel actually works, their view of what is truly possible can become unlimited. These truths, as far as we understand and believe them, just simply work. As we start to believe and seek, trusting in the Lord's timetable for us, the curtain opens a little more, and we see a little more, and believe a little more—and then those things work, too. We know, because we can see and touch them.

And, now, standing upon the precipice of the latter days, we can see much further still. My faith tells me that by this same simple belief, we will arise and claim our place within these glorious things. Then those times and blessed happenings which the righteous of every generation have seen with an eye of faith, and yearned to be a part of, will burst upon us—you and me—with a thunderclap of joy.

*Brother John*

## The Mountains Will Move

The power of the gospel of Christ isn't that it points to a glorious outcome and cheers us on. The power lies in the fact that from the moment of our birth, through every decision and trial in our lives, to every necessary enhancement to our souls, to purging our sins, to lifting us beyond our mortal abilities, to cleansing, sanctifying, and purifying—Christ not only showed us the way, but He *is* the way. It is through the grace of Christ that we can become these things, which are far more than any mortal can achieve and be on their own.

He said, "Come, follow me," not because He had a great idea and defined a pathway toward that goal but because He became "the way" by the shedding of His blood and offering salvation to us at a cost that is well within our mortal budget.

It is within our reach because God does not require perfection of us per se. He requires obedience to His voice, which is His law (D&C 88:13), and in return He sanctifies, purifies, and changes us by virtue of His grace so that we become like Him. It doesn't happen—it *can't* happen—as a result of our works, no matter how impressive they may seem to be. It is eternally beyond our ability to perfect ourselves by our works. It can only happen because we obey laws that trigger eternal gifts of grace that lift us to divine climbs.

Elder Bednar taught us in these words:

All of our worthy desires and good works, as necessary as they are, can never produce clean hands and a pure heart. It is the Atonement of Jesus Christ that provides both a cleansing and redeeming power that helps us to overcome sin and a sanctifying and strengthening power that helps us to become better than we ever could by relying upon our own strengths. (David A. Bednar, *Ensign*, November 2007, 82; italics in original)

In other words, we have the same privileges "in Christ" as Christ had in His Father. Christ will show us all things whatsoever we should do and then empower us to do them.

The great chasm that we must cross to follow Him and to do the works that He did is that we are not able in and of ourselves to be perfect, as He was. But through His grace, we do have the ability to be perfectly and flawlessly obedient, as Christ was. The beauty and power of Christ's plan is that as we obey Him, He will provide all that we lack. He will close the great chasm we cannot cross by changing us

so that we meet the standard of worthiness.

We must be obedient to Christ's voice as Christ was to the Father's voice. But don't despair! With the grace of Christ to enable us, this is well within our power. We can, in all matters of our ministry, speak every word that Christ puts to our lips and perform every service that He asks and directs us to do. And then comes the absolute power of the gospel of the Son of God: When we command such obedience of our hands, hearts, and lips, then Christ applies the atoning blood He spilt in Gethsemane and upon the cross, which cleanses, sanctifies, and perfects us so that we "in Christ" can do all the works that He did—and in time, even greater.

We will never be perfect in our own name or by our own efforts. Mortals are not engineered to have self-exalting strength. We are engineered to be humble, obey the Master, and thus let Him upgrade, cleanse, and perfect us.

I pray that we prayerfully enshrine this truth in our hearts. When we at last believe and obey, Christ delights in overlaying our failings and weakness with His perfections, and we will become perfect *in Christ*. We will then cease to struggle with spirituality. We will cease to fear and worry that we are not enough, that we can't live the higher laws, or that our faith is yet too tiny to move the mountains in our lives. When we become "perfect in Christ," we will simply hear His voice and faithfully obey, and the mountains will move.

*Brother John*

## **Saving Faith in Christ**

A dear member of our family is very brilliant (I'll call him David). He has a photographic memory and a genius IQ. We have at times talked about faith and how faith is impossible for him, because he has been unsure much of his life that God actually exists. He had always felt that faith was too subjective to be believable.

However, a few years ago while visiting us in Alaska, David told me a story. He had been absorbed in studying the replication of DNA and had observed that as the double helix unwound to replicate, it tangled, just the way two spiral telephone cords being pulled apart do. Science has discovered that there is a little protein machine (for lack of a better word), an intelligent, purposeful organic device within every cell, which goes down the helix and snips it at the entanglement. It then stays with the strand, and once it is free, this little intelligent machine reconnects the strand and then goes up and down it to check for integrity. If the strand is up to specs, the little machine detaches and floats away. If the DNA is flawed, it triggers a destruction sequence of that DNA strand so that it cannot create a mutation.

When David deeply considered this and the billions of other similarly intelligent "machines" that facilitate function of body and mind, in a flash it became apparent to his mind that this was of absolute intelligent design. It was just too perfect, too genius, too intricate to have resulted from random evolution.

He told me that evening he had gone for a long walk, and somewhere during that walk, he looked up and asked out loud, "God, are you there?" To his astonishment, he heard an instant reply—an audible voice that he knew for a fact was not his. It said, "Yes, I am here."

David now says, “I know without doubt that there is a God; I just don’t know what He is like, or what he wants from me.”

I am overjoyed with David’s new knowledge of God. But his story also illustrates the three requirements for faith that the Prophet Joseph recorded so powerfully: “Three things are necessary in order that any rational and intelligent being may exercise faith in God unto life and salvation. First, the idea that He actually exists. Second, a *correct* idea of his character, perfections, and attributes. Thirdly, an actual knowledge that the course of life which he is pursuing is according to His will” (*Lectures on Faith* 3:2–5).

It seems obvious to you and me that one must believe God actually exists to have faith. But for one struggling with believing in God, it is a nearly impossible obstacle. We must have a *correct* understanding of God’s attributes and perfections. As Hebrews 11:6 states, “But without faith it is impossible to please [God]; for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.”

We must know—not merely believe, but know—that God is a rewarder of them that seek Him. And how do we learn that for ourselves? We arrive at this understanding by our acts of faith, which are always followed by unfailing blessings from God. In that process, we see that God never fails us—that He always blesses *every time* we obey His laws. He never changes. His laws function the same forever and ever. He never asks us to serve Him or sacrifice for Him without preparing a way for us to succeed, and then to reward us a hundred-fold.

Without this essential understanding of God’s attributes, one might falter at the altar of sacrifice, doubting that God would follow through, and our sacrifice be in vain. We could look at a covenant we are being asked to make, or to which we must live faithfully, and doubt that God would really keep His end of the contract.

We obtain true understanding of God’s attributes through our gospel walk. We obey some law or prompting, and then year after year we observe how He always blesses us, how He is faithful and anxious to prosper and uplift us. We pray year after year, and receive answers year after year, until we no longer just believe, but we are a witness that God will faithfully bless *all* those who seek Him.

Then comes the final requirement for obtaining saving faith: an actual knowledge that the course of our life is pleasing to God.

If we are picking and choosing which promptings or which commandments we are going to obey, then this latter and greatest knowledge cannot exist in us. Only by obeying *all* of the commandments and *all* of the promptings does one come to this knowledge. And, it is only possible to obey them *all* because we correctly understand God’s unfailing love, His gifted grace, and His eternal consistency in blessing the faithful.

This is where the rubber of our souls hits the road of consecration. It takes most of a lifetime to arrive at a point where we can dedicate and consecrate every act, and all of our heart, might, mind, and strength to obedience. But, when we do, then the heavens open and the Father informs us, “Ye shall have eternal life!”

Wherefore, ye must press forward with steadfastness in Christ, having a perfect brightness of hope, and a love of God and of all men. Wherefore, if ye shall press forward, feasting upon the word of Christ, and endure to the end [in flawless obedience], behold, thus saith the Father: Ye shall have

eternal life. (2 Nephi 31:20)

We call this event “having your calling and election made sure.”


This same formula is evident in Nephi’s blessing and subsequent promise of exaltation:

Blessed art thou, Nephi, for those things which thou has done; for I have beheld how thou has with unwearyingness declared the word, which I have given unto thee, unto this people. And thou has not feared them, and hast not sought thine own life, but hast sought my will, and to keep my commandments. And now, because thou has done this with such unwearyingness, behold, I will bless thee forever; and I will make thee mighty in word and in deed, in faith and in works; yea, even that all things shall be done unto the according to thy word, for thou shalt not ask that which is contrary to my will.” (Helaman 10:4–5)

Herein lies a great key, as we pursue *saving* faith in Christ.

*Brother John*

## By Him and of Him

 One of the comments today was that I am beginning to sound like a broken record. The funny thing is that as I was writing that post I had the words “broken record” pop into my head. I didn’t know what it meant . . .

Let me ask a question. What is the most common substance in the universe?

I expect that among the first answers that popped into your mind was water, carbon, or oxygen.

The correct answer is Jesus Christ. We don’t commonly think of our Savior as a substance, but the scriptures clearly say that Jesus Christ made all that exists, that it was made by Him and even *of* Him.

Doctrine and Covenants 88:41 teaches us: “He comprehendeth all things, and all things are before him, and all things are round about him; and he is above all things, and in all things, and is through all things, and is round about all things; and all things are by him, *and of him*, even God, forever and ever.”

Even our own bodies are made *of* this same Christ-element, which is His creative power through the light of Christ, which because it came *from* Him, is also somehow *of* Him. This means that we are made *of* Him as well. Furthermore, Christ sustains all life because all life is a part of Him, and by His power all things remain in their proper order. Turtles don’t give birth to horses, and corn seeds don’t sprout into stake centers.

So, here we are, made of, by, and for Christ, hearing His voice in our hearts, depending upon His sacrifice and Atonement, dependent upon His grace for the continuation of our mortal lives and for the very hope of our eternal lives! And yet, we have trouble remembering Him and keeping His commandments—the irony being that we are surrounded by nothing so profoundly permeating as Christ and His creations.

We forget at times that Christ is not just the source of the still small voice in our heads, but He is everything else: the way, the truth, and the light. He isn’t the signpost that shows the way, He *is* the way.

And here is the reason for the broken record: No truth is more important than this.

Because He is all things to us, the only open door through which we may come unto Him, and to become “one” with Him, and to live the life that He lives—we must hear and obey His voice. We don’t need a PhD, a brilliant IQ, or a chorus of angels to reveal the way. All we need is our grace-empowered obedience. He will change us to be like Him, and in time sit us down upon thrones in our own kingdoms of glory.

And we will praise Him forever.

*Brother John*

## The Holy Ghost and Light of Christ

In response to several comments and questions, let’s take another look at the difference between the Holy Ghost and the Light of Christ. The Light of Christ emanates from Christ and is disseminated to us through the Holy Ghost. This function of the third member of the Godhead is commonly referred to as the Holy Spirit (as an example, see Mosiah 3:19). It is also appropriately called the light of truth, the voice of Christ, the voice of truth, the spirit of truth, the word(s) of Christ, the Word, His voice, “My” voice, the voice of the Good Shepherd, the Spirit of Christ, the Spirit of God, the Spirit of the Lord, and the Light of Christ.

The function of the Light of Christ is to teach us good from evil, and right from wrong. Any time we hear or feel a prompting to choose the right, do good, be kind, express love, or serve or bear testimony, that knowledge comes from Christ.

The Holy Spirit is also the source of our conscience and is a free gift to all mankind because of the Atonement of Christ. It has the power to warn, entice, enlighten, and urge obedience. It will expand its mission to become a teacher of great eloquence as we give heed to its guiding voice.

Even in its most powerful role, the Holy Spirit generally remains a “still small voice.” Even profound truths can come silently and require faith to hear and obey. Through righteous experience and obedience to the voice of the Holy Spirit, the Light of Christ becomes more powerful. It communicates greater and greater truths and in time administers the spiritual gifts such as faith, hope, prophecy, knowledge, teaching, believing, healings, and other miracles (see Moroni 10:1–34).

Bruce R. McConkie taught: “Moroni says that the gifts of God come from Christ, by the power of the Holy Ghost and by the Spirit of Christ (Moroni 10). In other words, the gifts come by the power of that Spirit who is the Holy Ghost, but the Spirit of Christ (or light of Christ) is the agency through which the Holy Ghost operates” (McConkie, *Mormon Doctrine*, 314; parenthetical comments in original).

The operation of the Holy Spirit should not be confused with that of the Holy Ghost. When the Holy Ghost speaks in His role as a revelator, the voice (knowledge, feeling, or impression) is louder and cannot easily be mistaken. The Holy Ghost communicates truth in a more powerful way, which enlightens the soul with poignant truth. When we are so blessed to enjoy profound revelation and glorious manifestations, these also come through the Holy Ghost.

This type of grand communiqué becomes an abundant part of our lives only after we have learned to and faithfully followed the lesser gift of the guiding voice of the

Holy Spirit. Prior to this the Holy Ghost only speaks on inspiring occasions, and for a special witness, such as when we first gained a testimony that Jesus Christ truly is our Savior.

The Holy Ghost is also referred to as the Holy Spirit, or other terms which usually apply to the Light of Christ, due to the fact that the operation of the agency of the Holy Spirit, and that of the Holy Ghost, becomes nearly indistinguishable as one grows nearer and nearer to sanctification. But the Holy Ghost is always correctly referred to as the Comforter, the Holy Spirit of Promise, and the Spirit of God.

For the sake of clarity, throughout this UnBlog the term “Holy Spirit” refers to the Light of Christ—the Holy Ghost acting in His assigned role as the Light of Christ. Whenever the term “Holy Ghost” is used, reference is being made to the third member of the Godhead speaking in His role as a revelator.

When Jesus Christ speaks through the Holy Ghost as our conscience, He speaks to us without the requirement for us to be worthy or even qualified. The Light of Christ comes to us essentially prepaid through the grace and mercy of the Atonement which Jesus paid for by the shedding of His own blood (see D&C 88:6). Because of the Atonement, Christ can extend mercy to us and reach us via the Holy Spirit even when we don’t want it or know how much we need it.

*Brother John*

## **Making Sense of It All**

had the privilege of giving a fireside last Sunday evening. It was a great blessing. I have done far fewer of them this year because of my health, so this was a sweet experience. After each fireside, I listen to people’s questions about their own journey. The questions are heartfelt and sincere, and their yearning for concrete, logical answers real. It seems to be a human quality to want to make sense of our lives by use of logic. Unfortunately, logic is poorly equipped to make sense of spiritual things because God’s ways are much higher than our own, and His law is light and truth, not logic as we can define it.

I have discovered that especially in spiritual things, we want to know the formula, the rules of the road, the laws, bylaws, and fine print that govern spiritual blessings. I suppose our hope is that if we can learn all of the requirements, we can check them off one-by-one and then the blessing will manifest. Or, perhaps we are trying to make sense of why we checked off every box we understood and the blessing is still somewhere before us.

One of the things that I love about the gospel of Jesus Christ is that it is extremely custom-made for each seeker. There are undergirding principles, ordinances, and requirements that are common to every journey, but when you go beyond those few basic things, there really are very few “rules” one can write down and check off. The process is very simply to “come unto Christ, and be perfected in Him” (Moroni 10:32). That purifying and perfecting process will assuredly take as many different forms as there are people seeking it.

This doesn’t mean that we are left without a clear guide as we step off of the known and seeable launching pad. It means that if we have correctly prepared to step off, we will already have taken Christ as our guide, attuned our spiritual ears to His

voice, and are willing to do anything He asks us to do. Here is the great safety of coming unto Christ, that we are not following a set of rules but a living, loving, enabling, and atoning Being whose work and glory it is to see that we actually arrive there. Our exaltation isn't a sideline activity He is doing; it is the only work He is engaged in. He isn't doing anything else.


Now, here is the hard part: We must let go of the handrails and the training wheels of the launch pad and trust Christ to lead us with complete safety and in the highest definition of efficiency. If we have taken the Holy Spirit to be our guide, then we can replace every question with the assurance of faith. This is a big "if," but it is one that we should never leave home without! We do not need to know why in every instance. We only need to know that it is His will. This is not blind obedience; this is obedience with our eyes open wide with wonder and acceptance, delighting in the eternal vistas that are opening before us.

Unlike some fictional deities, our God is a God of truth and does not deceive or trick us. It is impossible for anyone to take the Holy Spirit as their guide, firmly maintain their grip upon that iron rod, and then end up anywhere else than at exaltation in the fullest eternal sense—with a multitude of blessings, miracles, manifestations, visitations, powers, protections, and blessings all along the journey there.

In this we can have absolute faith because it makes sense of everything that happens along the way. It makes sense because faith and inspired trust overcome fear and doubt. The Holy Spirit whispers peace and makes of our lives a direct course seen most clearly in revelatory flashes and inspired hindsight—but straight and true nonetheless.

*Brother John*

## I Am a Child of God

hroughout my childhood, my favorite Primary song was "I Am a Child of God." Its message resonated with my little soul and gave me a sense of belonging to my family and to Heavenly Father. Its message is still sweet and comforting.

As a spiritually mature adult, however, I have found a divine sonship which is profoundly more empowering. If now I wrote a song to enthrone and teach this greater sonship, I might well entitle it "I Am a Child of Jesus." Let me explain.

Being a child of Heavenly Father is marvelous and speaks of our eternal possibilities. But it is not unique. Every living person on the earth is a child of Heavenly Father. Even those who reject and fight against Him are His children. We are told He loves them all, even when He must withhold blessings and eternal rewards. Their divine sonship or daughtership does not entitle them to anything above anyone else.

Heavenly Father sent His Son, Jesus Christ, into this world to prepare a way for us to return to the Father's presence. We come unto the Father by coming to Christ, by taking His (Christ's) name upon us, and becoming His (Christ's) spiritual sons and daughters. When we become Christ's children, we take upon ourselves Christ's name because we are His spiritual offspring—His children. He thus becomes our spiritual

Father. As His children we then are entitled to His atoning sacrifice and His much-needed advocacy with the Father. As His child, we will be brought by Christ back to the Father “in His name.”

Having Christ as my spiritual Father is saving and exalting. It is the means whereby my relationship with Father continues throughout eternity and whereby I eventually may become like Father—not equal, but like Him, and most importantly *with* Him.

The prayer within “I Am a Child of God” is, “Teach me all that I must do to live with Him someday.” The answer to that prayer comes in the person and mission of Jesus Christ. What must I do? I must come unto Christ and be perfected in Him.

So when I want to sing of divine kinship, of exalting fatherhood, and saving sonship, I sing of Christ—whose love and grace and spiritual fatherhood will forever elevate me—so that as a redeemed son of Christ, I can live with Christ my Father and with my Heavenly Father again someday.

*Brother John*

# *Personal Journal*

## **September 10, 1973**

*It has been hard, but I have come to love these years I spent [on my mission] in South Africa, and I have realized joy in the people who accepted the truths I presented to them. I was also blessed to see many of the seeds I planted sprout and become harvested by others. There I gained a great love for the gospel and for teaching it.*

*I have since thought that the thing that would make me happiest would be to be able to shout repentance all the remaining days of my life to the honest in heart.*

## **February 12, 1978**

*During the winter of '78 we were living in a Lincoln log home [in Alaska] during a terrible snowstorm. It snowed about two feet, and the winds got up to about 120 mph for almost two weeks. We were stuck inside the house with only a fireplace for heat. At times, the temperature got to twenty-three below zero. When the winds finally abated, I dug out our four-wheel drive Scout and tried to get into town for food. It was impossible, as drifts were across the roads as deep as six feet.*

*I busted through some of them that were soft and then hit a hard one doing about 35 mph. It threw me up in the air quite a height. When I landed, it broke all four springs on the truck. I tried to continue on, but with the decreased clearance I got stuck in some shallow drifts.*

*The wind was still blowing around 60 mph. I tried to dig out, but the wind blew the snow back in faster than I could dig. After an hour of futile digging I got back in the cab, nearly frozen to death. I was nearly out of gas and knew that I was in bad trouble. I didn't expect anyone to come along for days.*

*I started praying for all I was worth.*

*While I was sitting there praying, I saw headlights coming from the opposite direction. A big new pickup was forging its way toward me! When it got within sight, I got out and told the people that the road was blocked. They pulled me out, and I made it into town and then home via another route that was not drifted. I knew it was a miracle.*

*The people who pulled me out were members of the Church who were just moving into the valley. They have been my friends ever since. I know I owe them and God my life.*

## **January 27, 1979**

*Another great experience happened at this time. I have been in the habit of fasting whenever the Spirit instructed me to do so. This averaged about twice a week, occasionally three times. Whenever I fasted because of obedience, I received such great spiritual blessings that I could hardly wait for the next time the Spirit would instruct me to fast.*

*One Sunday morning as I was sitting down to breakfast, the Spirit told me to fast because I was to give a priesthood blessing for healing the sick that day. I took the first fork full of food out of my mouth and retired to my room to pray. Then I went to church where I played the organ for Priesthood, Sunday School, and Sacrament meeting. During the prelude to priesthood meeting, one of the bishopric leaned over my shoulder and asked me to come to the hospital with him after the opening exercises and give a certain brother a blessing who was suffering from kidney stones. I readily accepted, as I was already preparing for the blessing.*

*After I was finished on the organ I found the bishop and said I was ready. He told me*

*that he had just sent someone else. I was sure that he had given my job away and felt bad. Just as I was walking from the church, a new member of the ward approached me and asked me if I would give his wife a blessing. Of course I accepted, and went straight to their house with my first counselor. On the way over I asked the Lord what blessing I should give her from Him. He told me to bless her to be healed immediately. I said I would.*

*This young woman was sick with something akin to pneumonia and looked whiter than the sheets she was lying on. She had been in bed for almost a week, perhaps longer. With the help of her husband, she walked to the living room of their small one-bedroom apartment. We had a short discussion about anointing with oil and about how the scriptures promise a worthy recipient the remission of their sins in preparation for the healing. My companion then anointed, and I gave this sister the blessing that I had been instructed to give her, rebuking the illness and commanding her to be healed and resume her normal duties.*

*When we removed our hands she looked exactly the same. We talked for about ten minutes, during which time she remained as weak as ever. I knew that the Lord had commanded me to give her that blessing, and it never occurred to me that He might not honor it. I just kept looking at her, waiting for it to occur. It was kind of like holding a ping pong ball under water and releasing it; you know absolutely well that it will surface, you just don't know exactly when or where.*

*I stood to leave and she stood to shake hands. She asked me if I was hungry and announced that she was getting some juice. She said she hadn't eaten for three days. She refused her husband's offer to get it for her. I heard things rattling about in the kitchen, and she came back out with a sandwich and a glass of juice, as well as several other things. Around her mouthful of food, she announced that she was famished and was going to eat—please excuse her. The color was back in her face. She dove into her food and we left.*

*I learned the next day that she was fully recovered and had been since the blessing. I KNOW God honors priesthood blessings.*

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