

Faith

There is no right or wrong to this chronicle, and this reflects nothing but my own personal opinion and beliefs. There is no religious affiliation to it at any level nor any attachments to anything I am involved with. That said, I think faith in itself is a tricky one. At times it is easy to lose faith and at others we cling to it the most.

Over the years, I won't lie, I've both lost and regained faith. For a period I didn't want to know or hear about God or faith yet still I sent my prayers. Around me it seemed like everybody was quick to pin everything on their faith in God and yet take no responsibility for themselves. I was in a very confused place and for reasons I'm still not sure of, I didn't want God there. Being a multi-faith chaplain it was a difficult position to be in because the automatic presumption was that my faith would never waiver and it felt almost hypocritical when anybody brought up the subject of faith with me.

It was only when I realised I was subconsciously sending prayers that I clinged to the hope all was not lost yet. I've argued with and possibly felt every imaginable emotion towards God, and my faith has yo-yoed with that. I will openly admit I've questioned everything and beyond because in it I found myself, my position and my current concept of faith, and it works for me.

When I first told my family about this diagnosis many of them came out with religious miracles and other faith centered concepts of hope. I don't know if they said it because they were hoping to make me or themselves feel better or because they simply couldn't accept the truth. As much as I believe in God and as much faith as I have in God's abilities, I also believe in reality and acceptance. As such the only prayer I've ever asked for with this diagnosis is the strength to deal with it as it progresses.

My brother said to me 'God only tests the strong' and at the time I didn't want to hear it nor did I have anything good to say about it, but now I do believe that we are never presented with more than we can handle, it just takes us time to believe in our own capabilities. It is easy to question our faith, but I know at the end of it, regardless of everything, I will still turn to my faith to get me through it all.