

When Your World Is Rocked ...

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you. Plans to give you a hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11

I can hardly believe that the holiday season is already over. Most people look forward all year long to the feast that they can devour without judgment at Thanksgiving and the festivities of Christmas, but for my family this year, **those traditions were moved to the bottom of our priority list.**

About two months ago, my mom started getting really sick, and the doctors couldn't find any source to her illness. They ran test after test, yet nothing made sense as to why she had a low blood count and was losing weight at an alarming rate. Christmas was right around the corner, and we decided to take a break from all the doctors' appointments and just enjoy the season with our family. We would worry about possible causes for these symptoms after the tree had come down and the media had stopped showing all their Christmas specials.

This seemed like a great idea, but God had other plans. **Plans that would rock our world...** but then again, God seems to like switching up our plans, especially around Christmas time. The whole point of this season is that God flipped the script and sent His Son born of a virgin to save us. So when everything stopped going according to plan this Christmas, for me it was a lot easier to deal with, because I knew that **God was still in control, just as He was 2,000 years ago.**

About a week before December 25, my mom started coughing up blood. It wasn't a lot the first day. But then it continued day after day, until her whole hand would be covered with the blood. Christmas was just days away, but it was time to act. **We rushed her to the hospital to find out that she had lung cancer the size of a baseball in her left lung.** The doctors

had not thought to look for that specific form of cancer because my mother had never smoked or worked in a vocation that might contribute to lung cancer.

After that, things started going pretty fast. We were rushing my mom to many CT scans and biopsies. It was originally believed that she had stage three cancer, which would have given her about eight months to live. **However, my God is bigger than doctors' diagnoses**, and after much prayer my mother returned for another doctors appointment to find out that the cancer was not spreading as fast as they had first thought and that they might be able to get all of the cancer with surgery. That surgery is still going to be very rough and we are all anticipating January 18, when my mom will have her entire left lung removed, **but we are trusting God and know that He will protect my mom and continue to give us all peace throughout this difficult and scary experience.**

On behalf of my mom, I am asking that any one reading this would **please pray for her on January 18 as she goes into surgery.** It would be so powerful and amazing to know that thousands of people are out there praying for her to have strength and to feel God's presence throughout this time. My mom's own personal prayer is that God be glorified in all of this. Thank you.

Pray on!

[Brittany](#)

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degree for ministry.

