

Scripture Reading: John 10:10

I am come that they may have life, and have it more abundantly.

Here are some things the Lord has abundantly blessed me with:

- Jesus died for me. And I have embraced Him as my Lord and Savior. I also have the assurance He is with me every step of my way.
- I had Godly parents who raised me in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.
- I met the love of my life at an early age, and we had 61 wonderful years together. Were there times of hardship, sorrow, and disappointment? We overcame obstacles as they came our way.
- I was blessed with three wonderful children. Our middle son Stevie died of cancer at age 7. It wasn't easy, but Jesus carried us through the years. Our two children, Ricky and Lisa, have given us five grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. What a joy they have been to us.
- I was honored to work with a family-oriented company of 18,000 employees for 36 years. I made many friends and memories there.
- I was fortunate to be born in America and live, especially in the beautiful mountains of North Carolina. Would I like to change things? Yes. Still, I know my God is in control.

Prayer: O Lord our God, during this Lenten Season, help us remember this Abundant Life isn't just luck. It is and was Jesus who has secured our place in Heaven if we turn from our sins and follow Him. Keep us ever mindful that we can look at the circumstances when times are difficult, or we can agree with St. Paul: "Finally brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy, think on these things." Philippians 4:8. It is in Jesus' Name I pray. Amen

~ Submitted by Arlene Hendrix for the Third Reading of Lent.

