

GOSPEL GLIMPSES



Marisa Kim

In 2-4 sentences, tell us a little about yourself (where you are from, what brought you to San Diego, family, careers, etc...)

I've now been married for as long as the age I was when I said "I do" to my husband, Yong, over 26 years ago! Moving down to sunny San Diego from smoggy L.A. to start our new life together was an obvious choice to me at the time. Looking back, I see how God has used these years to draw me into a deeper understanding of His grace and love for me through Jesus.

Pastor Paul, Harbor and Redeemer Presbyterian church have been part of my faith journey for the last 18 years. My marriage, motherhood to 4 children and my years working as a nurse, have all been profoundly affected by the transformative power of the gospel that I heard preached every Sunday and taught with every passage of scripture pointing to Christ as redeemer who redeems every aspect of my life.

Tell us about something that is life-giving to you and why!

What is life giving to me is to see and hear beautiful music. I love plays and movies, all Pixar movies! And musical theater. It is especially poignant when there is a redemptive aspect of the gospel being portrayed. For example, my husband and I got to see the London production of Les Miserables on our visit to the U.K last year. It was such a tearjerker whether I watch it in the movies or on stage. It's such a powerful and emotionally portrayed story that highlights the transformative and redeeming power of grace and forgiveness in the life of the main character, Jean Valjean.

In Philippians 4:8, Paul encourages believers to focus on things that are pure, praiseworthy, just, true, lovely, and commendable. In light of that, share with us one thing you have seen or experienced that exemplifies one of these.

To me being a nurse is something true, right and noble. The

fortitude and strength of health care workers who come to work as this pandemic continues on with no end in sight is admirable. I've worked as a pediatric nurse for about 10 years and over 8 years as an infection control nurse most recently. My current work doesn't really call for direct patient care and interaction but rather with the nursing staff and other health care workers who take care of the patients. Early in the COVID pandemic my main responsibility was to keep our health care workers safe in the best way we could given the PPE shortages. Proper putting on and taking off of PPE is critical so they don't self contaminate or spread the virus around to others. Those nurses and doctors in the ED are our front line. If they get sick, who will be there to care for all the sick who continue to come in? My infection prevention team supported the staff through education and training and updates on the ever changing information to keep them informed with facts and science. The nurse's oath, borne out of the Hippocratic oath, to do no harm, is about the safety of the patient. Every day I work with the nurses, I see their dedication to their profession and their oath.

What specific Scripture verse(s) has the Lord been using to encourage you during this season?

Seeing the COVID pandemic getting worse is discouraging and disheartening especially knowing that people are making the surge worse by not abiding by the infection control practices of masking and physical distancing. We've had so many deaths related to COVID in the past month and the outbreaks increase throughout our county and even within our hospital. I can easily feel burned out by the surge and the stress of it all. I even contemplated quitting like many of the nurses who recently have which is creating a nursing shortage.

Romans 15:13 has been a well spring to my soul and a reminder that I worship the God of hope, the originator of hope. Because of the life, work, death and resurrection of Christ, I have a true hope as an anchor for my soul. Not an optimism, but real hope in the One who has shown himself faithful and true and where I can place my ultimate hope regardless of the circumstances.