



# *Your Life Belongs to God, Not Cancer*

by Rev. Percy McCray

*For in Him, we live and move and have our being.  
As some of your own poets have said, "We are His offspring".*

Acts 17:28

Cancer inundates patients with a new lexicon of language and definitions. The weight of this communication can envelope our being to dominate how we see or define ourselves.

As spiritual beings, we should attempt to view ourselves from God's perspective.

You are a direct expression of the creator's handiwork, so be emboldened by the fact that your life, movement and very being should only be quantified by God.

*For we are God's handiwork...*

Ephesians 2:10

# Your Life Belongs to God, Not Cancer

Though cancer is a threat that attacks the body, it cannot affect the spiritual aspects of our life, movement or being in God.



## Life

Our spiritual being is of, by, and for God, and it will live eternally and never die.

## Movement

When our mortal body fades away, our spirit will continue to have movement and expression.



## Being

The essence of our being is directly connected to our creator, which is God almighty.

# Your Life Belongs to God, Not Cancer

## Six truths defined by our relationship with God, not cancer

1

### Our Godly purpose

God has deposited within every one of us a reason for our existence, which is intended to bless others, and a cancer challenge cannot change that. In fact, it may enhance our purpose.

*Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy, for in you my soul takes refuge. In the shadow of your wings, I will take shelter until the danger has passed. I cry out to God Most High, to God who fulfills His purpose for me. He reaches down from heaven and saves me; He rebukes those who trample me*

- Psalm 57:1-3 (BSB)

2

### Our Godly value or worth

The most precious natural resource on earth is the human resource, and God has called all of us, His human creation, chosen and special. You are not damaged goods because of cancer.

*But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.*

- 1 Peter 2:9

3

### Our Godly joy

Joy is not happiness. No one can be happy to have cancer. Happiness is based on what happens to us, our environmental circumstances, etc. Joy is a spiritual force that transcends environmental occurrences. It is one of the fruits of the Holy Spirit that resides within us.

*As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.*

- John 15:9-11

4

### Our Godly peace

As a child of God, we have access to His peace, no matter what our circumstances.

*Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

- Philippians 4:4-7

# Your Life Belongs to God, Not Cancer

Six truths defined by our relationship with God, not cancer (CONTINUED)

5

## Our Godly identity

People are often labeled by their diagnosis, but the reality is only God should label you.

*As it is written: "For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

- Romans 8:36-39

6

## Our Godly spiritual destiny

Cancer may bring an end to mortal life, but it does not have the ability to determine our final eternal residence.

*But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.*

- Philippians 3:20-21



# Your Life Belongs to God, Not Cancer

Cancer at the very least is a disruption, distraction and detour in life, but at the end of the day, you are not your cancer, and your cancer is not who you are. Cancer may very well be something that you have, but cancer does not have you. It may even ravish your body, but it can never touch or kill your soul or spirit, because those belong only to God.

Be encouraged today, even in a worst-case scenario, that your *life, movement* and *being* belongs to God, not cancer.

*But now, this is what the Lord says—*

*he who created you, Jacob, he who formed you, Israel:*

*“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you...”*

*Isaiah 43:1-2*



Rev. Percy McCray Jr. has spent more than 20 years ministering to cancer patients and their caregivers at Cancer Treatment Centers of America® (CTCA).

An ordained minister, Rev. McCray is a member of the U.S. Chaplain Association. He has been recognized as one of the “most influential African Americans in Lake County (IL)” by the *Chicago Peoples Voice* newspaper for his religious and leadership roles within the community.

**Health, Hope & Inspiration** is a weekly podcast, sponsored by Cancer Treatment Centers of America® (CTCA), designed to help people find answers to questions about cancer, cancer prevention and overall healthy living. One of the greatest gifts a person can enjoy is good health. A well-rounded lifestyle is the product of physical, emotional and spiritual health. These three things are interdependent, and that is the message of *Health, Hope & Inspiration*, as well as the basis of the integrative approach at CTCA®.

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WITH REV. PERCY MCCRAY



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