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Our wonderful Heavenly Father, we come to You again today in praise and in thanks for how good You are, how faithful You are, how loving You are. May we stand today in faith on all of the acts of goodness and kindness that You have done on our behalf, on the acts of love that You have done on our behalf. We stand in faith and we declare Your praises because we know Your goodness. We have seen and tasted it. And all of our temporary situations aside, we know, we rest on what is the truth, that You are love and that You have shown that love to us. Help us to understand now these truths and these words that I have prepared to help my friends to hear what it is You are saying. In the name of Your Son Jesus, amen. So, earlier this week I got an email from Keith and it said, "Matthew, Marg went in for her mammogram this week and she, well, a few weeks ago, went back for a biopsy and it was discovered that she has invasive malignant breast cancer. And when we hear something like that, we are tempted to be like the rest of the world and respond either in anger or in despair. But fortunately for us, we are not like the rest of the world. Fortunately for us, we have an amazing, powerful, loving God on our side. See, he went on to explain that back when we first selected Keith to be our pastor, if the visa had gone through immediately and they had come over back in January or whatever it was, they would be here now, but we have been having a hard time trying to find affordable health insurance for them and there is the possibility that she, Marg, might not have been able to have that mammogram. And if we hadn't selected them as our pastor, then her mammogram wouldn't have been until next February. But because of the way that this whole situation is unfolding, she had her mammogram this month and the doctor has said that because we have caught it so early, because we caught it right now, we are completely sure that this is going to be treated and cured. And Keith was praising God and I was praising God that despite all of these delays and setbacks that we have been struggling with and wrestling with, God's design is clearly evident in all of these situations. It's clear that his hand is completely in control of the timing of the visa, in control of the timing of the doctor's visit. He didn't want Marg to get breast cancer, but he wasn't surprised when it happened and he had a plan for it. And so keep them in your prayers. They were concerned that we were going to say, "Oh, well, too many delays. We're going with someone else." And I said, "No, no, no." I said, "When I look at this situation and when I see how clearly God's hand is on it, it is so clear to me that this is exactly where he wants us. It's so clear to me and we are just going to stick with what God has led us to, which is you, Keith. So we're going to stick with this. We're going to wait for you. We're going to pray for you. And I'm telling you all right now, just like Millie said, prayer works. So let's keep Marg covered in prayer. Let's ask for a complete and total healing. The doctor said that she'd be ready to travel in three months, six months of treatment, and then travel again in three months. So let's pray that that schedule is the final schedule. But if that is the final schedule, then we can expect them here around the end of November. And these divine timing, if you're looking for it, you can see it all over. And we have some verses that encourage us in these things. The one that popped into my head and I didn't know the reference, and then once I found the reference, I realized that this is the one that is the verse that Marg is holding onto right now, and that's Romans 8.28. "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose." All things work together for good to those that love God and are called according to His purpose. We can see God's fingerprints on this whole situation. Also, James 1.17, "Every good and perfect gift is from above and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning." My friends, God still works wonders. He still does miracles. He still intervenes on behalf of His children. It doesn't mean that every little speed bump in our life is going to turn into a miracle. That's why we call them miracles and not Wednesday. I have to give credit to Tim Chadwick for saying that, but I love that line. It's true. Yes, God uses miracles, but not every single time. He's constantly there, constantly working behind the scenes. If you keep a sharp eye, if you look and believe, you'll begin to see how everything is just working together. It's not coincidence. For those who want to be skeptics and those who want to doubt, you can just write it off as coincidence. But in my life, I've just seen way too many coincidences for it to be coincidence. My brother, God wakes up some woman in the middle of the night on the other side of the planet and says, "Pray for my brother and his son," whom she didn't even know he had a son. Three hours later, they were in a life-threatening car accident and walked away without a scratch. I responded to Keith. I said, "It's no secret. I'm sure my parents have told you that they're trying very hard to get me back to Colorado. I know you guys have a little war going. It's a peaceful Quaker war, but a lot of you want me here and they want me there." My brother found a job for me out there. He told me about it in January. He said, "Matt, it's a great job. It'll be available in March." I said, "Oh, great. We just hired Keith. He'll be here by March." I said, "When he gets here, I'll come out and take the job, if it's right, if it's God's will." Then he came back to me a few weeks later and said, "Matt, I'm so sorry. The job's not going to be available until December." I said, "What am I going to do between all the time, between when Keith gets here in December and now Keith's getting here at the end of November?" I don't know if that's where God wants me next. I love sharing the Word and sharing the truth with people. I don't know if I can go back to programming, but again, I just see these patterns and these designs all coming together. It's more than coincidence. Deuteronomy 31, 6-8 says, "Be strong and of good courage. Do not fear or be afraid of them, for the Lord your God, He is the one that goes with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you." Then Moses called Joshua and said to him in the sight of all Israel, "Be strong and of good courage, for you must go with this people to the land which the Lord has sworn to their fathers to give them, and you shall cause them to inherit it. And the Lord, He is the one who goes before you. He will be with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you. Do not fear nor be dismayed." So if you look, this is kind of the first half of my message, and the second half of my message is completely different. But the first half of my message is this. God still works. And if you look at your life and all these situations with the eyes of faith, and if you are patient and you prayerfully and joyfully wade through your difficulties and your troubles, you will see all things work together for good. It may not happen today, but it will happen, because God keeps His promises, and He will make all things work together for good for those who love Him and are called according to His purposes. So be strengthened. Look for these divine fingerprints and be strengthened in that. But even if you don't see that, even if that's not good enough for you, I want to encourage you with the greatest sign that God has ever given us. And that is the sign of His Son Jesus. Jesus performed many miracles. He performed many signs, but He Himself was the greatest sign and the greatest evidence and the only evidence we need in order to believe and put our faith in Him. Jesus referred to Himself as the sign of Jonah. He says that in Matthew 12, 38 through 40. Some of the scribes and Pharisees answered, saying, "Teacher, we want to see a sign from you." Now, keep in mind that they're saying this to Him after He's been going up and down the streets, healing people and casting out demons and just doing everything. After all of that, they came up and said, "Teacher, we want to see a sign from you." So that should be the first clue that that's not really what they're looking for. Anyways, He answered and said to them, "An evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so the Son of Man will be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth." You see, hundreds of years, actually a span of time starting thousands of years before Jesus, up to hundreds of years before Him, that was the time that the Old Testament was written. It's a...oh, I forgot my math...it's 39 books written over nearly 2,000 years. And all of it is just this one big secret message pointing towards Jesus. You have stories like Jonah, where he's in the fish for three days and three nights, which show how Jesus would be in the earth three days and three nights. We have the story of Ruth, which is the story about how God would purchase back the one who was lost, bring into the family the one who was lost. We see the sign of Moses lifting up the snake in the wilderness on a pole, so that anyone who was bit by a snake would look at that brass snake up on a pole and would be healed and not die from their snake bites. And we see that the snake is a symbol of sin, and that where the people are dying from sin, they look up to the symbol of sin on a pole. They look up and they are saved. And Jesus, when He was on the cross, became sin for us on the cross, and when we look to Him, we are saved. The whole Old Testament is just one big secret message pointing towards Jesus. And Jesus is the fulfillment of all of that, of all of the Old Testament. And let me grab a Bible here, because I wanted to read something, but it was too long to type out. We're going to read all of Isaiah 53, because you know why not. Isaiah 53. "Who has believed our message, and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?" Keep in mind, as we're reading this, this was written 700 years before Jesus, and yet this is a prophecy about Jesus. "He grew up before Him like a tender shoot, like a root out of the dry ground. He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to Him, nothing in His appearance that we should desire Him. He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces, He was despised and we esteemed Him not. Surely He took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered Him stricken by God, smitten by Him and afflicted. But He was pierced for our transgressions. He was crushed for our iniquities. The punishment that brought us peace was upon Him, and by His wounds we are healed. We all like sheep have gone astray, each of us has turned to His own way, and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed and afflicted, yet He did not open His mouth. He was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is silent, so He did not open His mouth. By oppression and judgment He was taken away, and who can speak of His descendants, for He was cut off from the land of the living for the transgression of My people He was stricken. He was assigned a grave with the wicked and with the rich in His death, though He had done no violence nor was any deceit found in His mouth. Yet it was the Lord's will to crush Him and cause Him to suffer, and though the Lord makes His life a guilt offering, He will see His offspring and prolong His days, and the will of the Lord will prosper in His hand. After the suffering of His soul, He will see the light of life and be satisfied. By His knowledge, My righteous servant will justify many, and He will bear their iniquities. Therefore I will give Him a portion among the great, and He will divide the spoils with the strong, because He poured out His life unto death and was numbered with the transgressors. For He bore the sin of many and made intercession for the transgressors. Time and again, time and again, every page of the Old Testament is this big arrow pointing to Jesus, and Jesus showed up, and He fulfilled all that prophecy through His birth, life, death, and resurrection. And not only did His very existence fulfill all that prophecy, but He then went around through His life showing that He came with the power of God, performing miracles, and saying, "I am the way, the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father through Me." Those people who say Jesus was just a great teacher have not really read much about what He said. He said that He was God and that no other way leads to God but through Him. He is all the sign we need, and it's not just in the Bible that we find the story of Jesus. All throughout history, men who were writing took records and took note of what Jesus did. There are Christian and non-Christian historical sources that record the life and the ministry of Jesus. It is historical fact, and it's sufficient for us to believe and to place our faith in. So, God doesn't need to give us any more signs or any more miracles, and yet out of His great love for us, He continues to do so. He continues to work behind the scenes and order our steps and arrange for these divine circumstances. Even though I've already given you the greatest proof in my Son Jesus, even though there's nothing I can do that will outdo that, yet even still, I will patiently show you my love, show you that I'm caring for you, give you little bits of encouragement all throughout every day of your life. So, I want you guys to hold on to that. When you have that moment of doubt, when you are starting to wonder, when someone starts telling you about evolution or whatever, just say, "You know what? Evolution cannot explain the miraculous existence of Jesus. Coincidence cannot explain all the little bits of my life that have turned into this big arrow pointing to God." So, hold on to that. Write them down in your journal. Look and see and remember all of the good things that the Lord has done for you. Let's pray. Heavenly Father, we thank You that even though You gave us such a wonderful, beautiful sign of Your love for us, that even still You continue to encourage and support us and work on our behalf and stand up for us, that You do not leave us or forsake us, but that You go out before us, that You make the way ready for us, that You care for us. Remind us of this in our downtimes, in our dark times. Help us to remember and see all of the good things that You do for us. Encourage us and strengthen us with this good truth. In the name of Your Son, Jesus. Amen.