

Story of Faith: John McCarthy

Most of my life I have maintained a positive attitude; I have always been a person that sees the glass as half full, instead of half empty. However, through much of my life I was unaware that my attitude and faith was a gift from God until I began my life with Terri.

We met in college in 1998 and within that year we were deeply in love and planning a life for ourselves. She had decided not to have children concerned for the responsibility of raising them in this oftentimes cruel and turbulent world. So, with me having two grown children already, it was not an issue for me.

However, within a year she was diagnosed with endometriosis. Surgery and Lupron injections put her in a precarious situation. The Ob-Gyn informed her that if she did not have a child within 2 years of completing the treatment she may never be able to have one. I would also require surgery for this to happen. All of sudden having a child became important, though the professionals informed us that our chances of success were very low.

As a result, we didn't put much hope into having a child and just went on with our lives. I recall vividly meeting Terri at the doctor's office and hearing our son's heartbeat for the first time, reality set in, I went into momentary shock. Terri says that my face turned completely white when it hit home. Starting over with a child at the age of 43 what was I thinking?

I truly believe that a child is the most precious gift that any of us can receive here on earth. Whenever I meet new father's I give them one piece of advice, "***life is not about you anymore, it is about the child, you must now dedicate yourself exclusively to and for them.***"

Using us, God had a plan that produced a magnificent young man. Over the past twenty years there were many circumstances that tested my faith and trust in God. I have come to understand and realize that God is in control and what I call my positive attitude is actually my faith in God working in and through me.