



Help Lord! My Life Is Stuck!

By Edwina Frazier with Grace Gonzalez

It was a bad night.

Grace had no idea just how bad it was going to get before the night was over. She peered through the windshield of the car she was driving and squinted at the glare of the oncoming traffic to her left. Was it her or did those lights seem especially bright?

Jerking the steering wheel to the right, she swerved to avoid the guardrail. She swore and gripped the wheel even tighter. Everything was whizzing by superfast. Was that a speed limit sign she just passed? Was she even doing the speed limit? At this point, Grace didn't care. Her thoughts were churning over the unbearableness of her life. These weren't new thoughts; there wasn't a whole lot of anything good she could remember when it came to her life. Most days were spent in a drug and alcohol induced stupor to numb any feelings she had left. Grace didn't want to feel, she didn't want to think... she just wanted to die.

Death would be a release.

Grace leaned back and relaxed. Her fingers slowly slipped off the wheel and she closed her eyes. This was going to be quick and hopefully she'd die before she'd feel any pain. Blaring car horns and the screeching breaks of her fellow motorists, preceded a bone jarring impact that catapulted her car into a series of flips. By the third one, Grace had blacked out.

A searing pain and a loud voice awakened her. "*ARE YOU OK? CAN YOU HEAR ME? YOUR CAR IS ON FIRE! I HAVE TO GET YOU OUT OF THERE!*" Grace managed to turn her head and make out a man, who was leaning through her window, tugging on her seatbelt. Sweet blackness threatened to take her under again but the aggravating voice of the man chased it away. "*I'VE GOT TO GET YOU OUT OF THERE!*" "*Don't bother!*" Grace tried to say but the words came out jumbled.

Why was this man messing with her chance to escape the craziness of her world once and for all?

With great effort, she opened both her eyes and glared at him. "Leave me alone!" she growled. The man acted as if he were deaf. Releasing the safety belt, he dragged her through the window of her car which had landed upside down. Fiery stabs of pain engulfed her body as the man pulled her free from the burning wreck. Glancing down in the moonlight she could see the white shards of her bones sticking out from her leg. Blood was running down her face and she could taste blood in her mouth.

"I've called the police and an ambulance is on the way." The man informed her. Grace looked up at the night sky in anger. *"Really God?! You couldn't just let me die?"* She could hear the wail of a siren in the distance as cold rain pelted her face. Closing her eyes, she cursed God. *Take that!* She fumed inwardly as unconsciousness settled over her.

Immediately, tongues of fire seem to reach for her. The heat singed her hair and instantly blistered her skin. Fear, unlike anything she'd ever felt before in her life, seized her to the core. *"Noooooo!"* A scream rose from the pit of her soul. She had wanted to die, but she hadn't wanted to go to Hell. She had to find a way out of here!

"CAN YOU HEAR ME? YOU HAVE MULTIPLE FRACTURES IN YOUR LEG. WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO PERFORM SURGERY TO SAVE IT." Grace struggled to open her eyes and when she did, blinding light caused her to shut them again in pain. Her tongue felt heavy and she was so thirsty. She slit one eye open and could see a man in white leaning over her. Immediately he yelled to someone, "She's conscious!" Slowly Grace opened her other eye and took in the scene around her. Nurses and other medical staff were all doing things to her body. She was lying on a table near machines that were beeping and monitors that were displaying her vital signs.

She was alive! She wasn't in Hell!

The doctor who'd been speaking to her before, came back. *"We're going to have to put you to sleep to work on your leg."* Grace could almost feel the flames again as

he spoke those words. *"Please!"* The words leapt from her mouth. *"Please don't put me to sleep!"* Ironic how earlier she just wanted to die and now all she wanted to do was live. *God help me!* Was the only prayer she could think or had time to pray before someone placed a mask over her face. Grace tried to fight it off but unconsciousness swiftly claimed her.

The next day, Grace awakened to glorious sunlight streaming through a window. To move even a small amount sent shock waves of pain through her body BUT she was alive! Tears slid down her face as she silently thanked the One she'd cursed the night before. *"I don't know why you spared my life but you did. Now, you can have the rest of it. Show me how to get unstuck and off this crazy merry-go-round that my life has been on. I don't want to do this anymore."*

The change in her life, like her recovery, was a long process. Just when she thought things were getting better, she'd have to have another surgery. Eventually, infection set in and no amount of surgery could fix it. The only recourse she was given was to have her leg amputated. Shocked and angry at the prognosis, Grace slipped back to what was familiar; drugs and alcohol. But the Lord wasn't about to let her go out like that! One morning, after a night of heavy drug use, Grace awakened in a strange apartment to the voice of God:

"You have forgotten your promise to Me! You are getting discouraged because you are seeing the world go on without you, but I AM letting you know right now that you ARE going to walk, talk, and smile again, but it's going to be for MY GLORY!"

A few months later, after being in a wheelchair for 2 years, Grace took her first steps! The road ahead wasn't easy but it was filled with the hope that only God could provide. She kept her eyes on Him and one day at a time began to literally walk towards her destiny with the Lord's help.

COMMENTARY

"Do you feel like your life is between a rock and a hard place?"

Like Grace, you may have had or are currently going through what feels like Hell on earth and all you want to do is escape. Unlike Grace, you don't have to go through a near death experience to get the same answer she received. All you have to do is

ask God for help and He will love you to a place of wholeness, healing, deliverance and peace that is beyond what you could ask or think.

Are you ready for a change? Pray this prayer:

Lord I'm tired of living the way I've been living and I want more out of life. I give my life to You and ask you to forgive me and help me to live the rest of my life for You. Come into my life and heart to be my Lord and Savior for the rest of my life! I trust you to do what I can't do for myself and I believe that TODAY is the FIRST day of the REST of my LIFE! In Jesus name, Amen!

Now what?

The adventure begins! Get a bible in a version you can easily read like The Living Bible or The Message Bible and start reading your personal love and instruction letter from the Lord. (I suggest starting with the gospel of John in the New Testament as an easy place to begin.) In the WORD of God you will find guidance and wisdom for your new life. Talk to your heavenly Father in prayer frequently. He has promised to direct your paths. Get connected to other believers through church fellowship and don't be afraid to let others know you are a NEW creation in Christ!

Welcome to the family of God!



Meet Grace Gonzalez, the inspiration for this story and the founder of **The Grace Act Outreach Ministries**. Checkout her ministry website at: WWW.THEGRACEACT.COM YOU CAN ALSO CONTACT GRACE FOR SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS AT THEGRACEACT@GMAIL.COM