



Thank You

Give thanks with a grateful heart...

The Good Samaritan

. . . And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.' Which of these three, do you think, proved neighbor to the man . . . " He said, "The one who showed mercy on him." And Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

Heather wrote this as a thank you note to all the sponsors and volunteers that supported the "Hope for Heather" benefit in August. Because of complications she was not able to send it, she wanted you all to know how important your gifts and dedication meant to her.



How many words are there in the English language? Billions? Trillions? New words are created every day. What is more meaningful to a mother than hearing her child utter his first word? What is held more sacred than the last words of a loved one who is dying? How does your heart skip a beat when your paramour says, "I love you?" There are courses, careers, lives devoted to teaching how to properly use words; how to construct them into a sentence correctly, how to craft them into the proper sentiment, how to mold them into artwork, how to persuade the masses with them. But in

life, when something is truly meaningful, when you need your skill and education, your experience and practice; isn't it funny how it is in those exact moments when you find yourself at a loss for words?

If you have ever had that experience, you may have some sense of my sheer speechlessness right now. However, I doubt that many people will ever be able to experience how I am feeling in this moment. Because even if I was a prize-winner writer; even if I devoted my life to scouring the English language, I could never find words that could properly express my meaning. Words are, after all, just words; a series of letters and intonations that form a certain sound to match an image. How could mere words ever properly express any feeling?

Gratitude, thankfulness, appreciation. All synonyms for one simple phrase; thank you. And your selflessness and thoughtfulness have forever touched my life. It has been said that life is lived through actions, not words. And your actions have changed my life. I am so filled with gratitude. I am so overwhelmed with thankfulness. And I am so awestruck with appreciation that I don't think I could ever really put it into words. I think even the greatest poet would be caught wordless if he found himself in my position. They simply will never convey how truly grateful I am for your generosity, your love, and your support.

Thank you for your thoughts. Thank you for your prayers. Thank you for your energy and your time. Thank you for your messages, whether via e-mail, text, facebook, myspace, cards, letters, and my mom. Thank you for reading my blog. Thank you for supporting me. Thank you for being my army while I battle a demon that is so much larger than I am. Thank you for all of your love. Thank you for supporting me; in so many ways. Thank you for caring so much about me that you felt called to help. But mostly, thank you for helping me to know that I am not alone.



Thank you is simply not enough, and it will never be. I can only try to tell you how grateful I am and how you have inspired me with your kindness. You have filled my heart with hope and renewed my spirit and my faith. And that can never be properly thanked, except to say that it will never be forgotten.

I will end this simple letter with a quote from one of our greatest masters of words and poetry and with this simple promise to you: I will not give up. If there is one thing that I feel may in some way show you how thankful I am it is to keep fighting with all of my strength; to never be defeated.

*"I can no other answer make, but, thanks, and thanks."
William Shakespeare*

I am so honored that my life has been blessed by such wonderful and thoughtful people.

Thank you,
Heather M. Weeks

