

SOPHIE MEINHARDT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP 2012

HOW GREAT IS OUR GOD?

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There are many ways that God has shown his greatness to me. The one that stands out the most is the journey I am taking with my heart disorder. I know that sounds a little weird. It has really been a gift.

When I was in 3rd grade, I was diagnosed with a heart disorder. This disorder makes my heart beat really, really, fast and irregular. It feels very strange when this happens and makes me feel like I am going to vomit. My cardiologist thought he could fix it a few years ago. It did not work because when I was put to sleep for the procedure, I went back into regular rhythm. The disorder I have is called tachycardia. When I am in this phase of irregular heartbeats, I tend to get nauseous, dizzy, and very tired. It also affects my thinking abilities. The reason is because when I am in the phase of irregular heart beats, my brain tries to fix it and kind of shuts down to give everything it can to get my heart beating normal. Without the medicine that I take, I would not learn anything. My medicine does not totally heal the irregular beats. The medicine just controls it most of the time. I still have breakthrough irregular beats. I am getting used to it now and not so scared. The procedure they tried is called an ablation. The cardiologist thinks I am mature enough that when I am 14 he is going to try it again. This time I am going to be awake for it. This might sound terrible but it is not. God in a way blessed me with this journey so that I could meet all the great doctors and nurses along the way.

Without this disorder, I would not know how important doctors and nurses really are. I am 12 and already know what I want to do when I grow up. I want to be a nurse that helps children with heart problems. I want to do this because without my nurses I would have been so scared. Especially when I woke up after the procedure thinking my life was going

to be normal. My life is far from normal. When I woke up, the doctor told me that it did not work. He told me that he was sorry and that he felt bad because he fixes people from all over the world with my condition. He just could not fix me yet. I cried for hours. I think probably because I was groggy from the medicine. My nurses stayed right by my side the whole time.

Although, I have this disorder, God blessed me with the opportunity to meet wonderful and caring people. I also received an amazing level of prayers and support from my friends and my family. Which made me feel very loved. Without this disorder, I would never have wanted to be a nurse. This journey has shown and taught me many important things in life. My journey may seem like it will end when I am 14 and my procedure works. In reality, it is only the beginning. I am 12 and God has already showed me where I am supposed to be. Right here. Thank you God!!!