

May 2022

## Being Human

Training to become a healthcare professional is grueling. Endless classes and studying. Long hours in clinic and hospitals.

Patients can become “cases” that can become labs and diagnoses. Another “case” is discharged from the hospital and the next “case” is admitted to the hospital. And the grind continues.

Sometimes, people try to remember the reason they were even drawn to healthcare. Burnout—for both the student and the professional—can set in. And the grind continues.

Over the years, we’ve noticed that as students and professionals learn to provide spiritual care for their patients, one’s passion for their patient and profession is renewed. Enthusiasm and joy return. The mindset of another “case” fades. Patients are people with needs.

A few weeks ago, Bob was leading the weekly spiritual care training with the family medicine resident physicians. The team saw a patient and Dr. D completed a spiritual needs assessment, was able to talk with the patient about a relationship with God and pray with the patient. The patient was grateful and appreciative.

During the training/debrief session afterwards, Dr. D exclaimed, “I feel **human** again!” She went on to share that she is sometimes fearful of broaching spiritual needs with her patients. But now she realized that actually providing that type of care to a patient could be incredibly restorative to the patient and *to her*.

Dr. D’s response was not surprising. Years ago the Southern Medical Journal wrote:

*Caring about the patient is also what gives joy and fulfillment to the practice of medicine & is why many of us chose this profession. Its absence, especially in this pressured health care environment, can rapidly lead to dissatisfaction, emotional exhaustion, and burnout. Practicing whole-person medicine is the best kind of care both for those who receive it and those who give it.\**

Each day you are helping us equip more and more Christian healthcare students and professionals to discover what Southern Medical Journal describes and Dr. D experienced. And in all of this patients have opportunities to connect with God and He is glorified. Thank you!

*Bob & Diana*



Upcoming Events **JOIN US!!!**

June 12-July 9, 2022 Whole Person Care Preceptorship, Redlands, CA  
October 7-8, 2022 Whole Person Care Conference, Tulsa OK

\*So Med J 2004 Dec; 97 (12): 1194-1200

A caring community passionate about connecting people to Jesus Christ