

How is
your

heart?

♥ My 2 hearts



My name is David
and I am waiting
for a heart transplant...



I was born with a good heart

I am thankful that God granted me a good heart. It showed no signs of disease for well over 50 years and has pumped my blood more than 2 billion times. As Psalm 139 says *"I am wonderfully made."* I am not a chance happening but an individual created by God.



I was born with a bad heart

The Bible uses the word *"heart"* to describe the real *"me"* - my spiritual heart. That heart is bad. I was born that way; I inherited a corrupt nature and sinful character, just like all Adam's descendants. *"In this way death came to all men, because all sinned."* Romans 5:12 (NIV)

God's Word says that *"I was born a sinner - yes, from the moment my mother conceived me."* Psalm 51:5 (NLT)



My heart remained healthy

I grew up reasonably fit and active, doing all the things boys do. I am grateful to have been spared the illnesses, diseases, treatments and surgeries that have made life so hard for a great many of my friends.



My heart was getting worse and worse

I was reared in an environment where I was protected from much of the evil in the world but yet my heart was disobeying and rebelling. I was taught God's Word and learned many passages by heart but I refused to face the fact of my sin and its consequences. *"The wages of sin is death."* Romans 6:23 (NIV)



I gave little thought to my physical heart

I thought I had nothing to worry about. Some in my family had died due to heart illness but I had no symptoms and no concerns. I tried to live a healthy lifestyle and I avoided indulging in anything that could adversely affect my health. My heart kept beating faithfully and unseen.



I thought that my spiritual heart was basically good

I could see sinfulness in others but had not realised to what extent sin had invaded every part of me. My personality, mind, will, affections and conscience were all corrupted. *"The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure."* Jeremiah 17:9 (NIV) I thought things like murder, adultery and robbery were sins, but the Bible makes it clear that sin is anything that fails to meet God's perfect standard.



I learned that I needed another heart!

I thought I had developed a minor complaint but a visit to my Doctor brought devastating news. My heart had failed and I was eventually to learn that I needed a heart transplant.




I learned that I needed a new heart!

No amount of endeavour on my part was ever going to make things right between me and God. I could never improve my spiritual heart, however sincere I was. But God said, *"And I will give you a new heart with new and right desires, and I will put a new spirit in you. I will take out your stony stubborn heart and give you a tender responsive heart."* Ezekiel 36:26 (NLT)




I can only live if someone dies

To live a full life, I must receive a donated heart from someone who is alive today. Only by the gracious gift of a donor and a donor's family can my life change. That is an extremely emotional thought for me. I wish there was some way around it. But death comes to us all and if the situation was different, I would gladly donate any organ to help another person live.



Someone has died in my place

God is holy and perfect and cannot overlook sin. I was under the wrath of God for my sin. I could not escape the judgement. But God, in grace, provided salvation. He poured out His wrath on His perfect Son who died in my place. Christ suffered for my sin that He might save me. *"The Son of God loved me and gave Himself for me."* Galatians 2:20 (NIV)



I am waiting for a new heart

One of life's greatest gifts is an organ donation. None of us can ever find adequate words to express our thanks to the families who give us what is often called *"the gift of life."* In their deepest distress, they have thought of us.



I've been given a new heart

Because God is absolutely satisfied with what Jesus Christ accomplished for me on the cross, I have a new spiritual heart. One day He brought me in repentance and faith to the Saviour. I acknowledged my great sinfulness; I was so unworthy of receiving mercy but in simple faith I took Jesus Christ as my Saviour and Lord. He gave me a new heart. *"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith - and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God - not by works, so that no-one can boast."* Ephesians 2:8,9 (NIV)



A new heart may prolong my life

Medical expertise means that life expectancy is growing for those with a transplanted organ. Perhaps I will get a good transplant or my health will improve through medication. Perhaps I will have some more active years. But I know that ultimately I cannot avoid death.



My new heart guarantees me eternal life

No surgeon can give guarantees. But the one who raised Christ from the dead gives new life to all who believe in Him. And though the body will die one day, those who live in Him now, will live forever with Him. *"The gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."* Romans 6:23(NIV)



The future is uncertain

I do not know what the future will bring for my physical heart. Medication has had an unexpected impact and has made life bearable. This means I can wait a bit longer for my transplant or for whatever God has planned for me.



The future is assured

"If you confess with your mouth 'Jesus is Lord', and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved." Romans 10:9 (NIV)
"My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion for ever." Psalm 73:26 (NIV)
"If we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord." Romans 14:8 (NIV)



A question for you...

"Is your heart OK?"