

# Prayers for a Cowboy

Does God hear the voices of His children and intervene in their lives? Absolutely! Most of us, in fact, can point to occasions when our Lord showed us His love in tangible, even miraculous, ways.

Such is the story of Rebecca Stockton, regional office manager for the Pikes Peak Region in Colorado, and her husband in the wake of a horrible accident resulting from a fall from his horse on July 1 of this year.

Jeff Stockton, Rebecca's husband, suffered a traumatic injury as he rode his saddle horse across a log. While crossing the log, part of the log jabbed the horse in the back leg, and horse and rider went over backwards. The horse did not fall on Jeff; only on his left leg. Jeff hit his head and suffered a brain stem and frontal lobe injury. Here is Rebecca's story:

*When I got to Jeff, he was not breathing and didn't have a heartbeat. I did CPR until the paramedics arrived, and then he was sent on Flight for Life to St. Mary Corwin Hospital. He was in a coma for 10 days and on a ventilator. The physicians and nurses did not think that he would come out of it.*

*My family decided to have the ventilator removed, but God continued to put roadblocks in our way and we continued to be delayed in shutting off the ventilator. We later heard about all the prayers being said at that time, and then Jeff woke up. After he woke up, he was able to communicate with eye blinks, and then a tracheotomy and feeding tube were placed. Subsequently, he was transferred to Vibra Long Term Acute Care Hospital, where he was able to communicate with eye blinks, and then progressed to hand squeezes and raising his finger. He was weaned from the ventilator in less than one week of being at Vibra. He was then transferred to Craig Rehab Hospital on Aug. 22.*



**Jeff Stockton competed as a bull rider at the 1985 Colorado State Fair Rodeo.**

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*Since he has been at Craig Hospital, he is able to be up in a wheelchair. He is now able to lift his legs, rotate his feet, and move his legs in and out and up and down. He can move his arms up and down and in and out. He can move his head for yes or no. Jeff is able to sit up with help and is trying to assist with all his care. And just in the past few days, he is able to walk behind a shopping cart – the first time he has walked since his accident.*

*He has a tracheotomy tube, but they are capping it completely during the day and he is not on anything to help him breathe. He is trying to talk. He has been able to say a few things like “I love you,” “Thanks,” or his name.*



*Jeff will be coming home with home health care on Nov. 16. God has truly blessed us with the miracles He has provided. The power of prayer is evident in the way Jeff has progressed. We have had so much support from family, friends and complete strangers. When they ask what they can do to help, we just want them to continue to pray! God just continues to work miracles, and He is so amazing!*

What a beautiful story of God's love and grace! Rebecca is grateful for the prayers offered on their behalf, and asks that you continue to lift them up.

What difficulty are you facing today? When you pray, as Jesus advised, pray that God's will be done. As His child, our Lord will always answer you. Sometimes, it is yes, sometimes it is no. And His answer may be that He has a better plan or solution for you.

*Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need (Hebrews 4:16).*

– Beecher Hunter