

## Shrapnel on the Pillow

Cornelia (Corrie) ten Boom was a Dutch Christian who, with her father and other family members, helped many Jews escape the Nazi Holocaust during World War II. Her family was arrested due to an informant in 1944, and her father died 10 days later at Scheveningen prison where they were first held.

A sister, brother and nephew were released, but Corrie and her sister Betsie were sent to Ravensbrück concentration camp, where only Corrie survived. Ten Boom wrote numerous books and spoke frequently in the postwar years about her experiences of aiding Holocaust survivors.

In her book, *The Hiding Place*, ten Boom tells of tense times her family experienced in Holland during the German invasion. One night, as Corrie tossed restlessly on her bed while war bombers droned overhead and artillery burst nearby, she heard her sister downstairs in the kitchen.

Unable to sleep, she arose and joined Betsie for a cup of tea. The two talked well into the night, until the sound of the bombers died away. They knew that explosions had ripped an area nearby, but all had become quiet.

As Corrie stumbled through the darkness back to her room, she reached down to pat her pillow before lying down. As she did, something sharp cut her hand. It turned out to be a 10-inch-long piece of jagged metal.

She cried out for her sister and raced back down the stairs, holding the shrapnel in her hand.

As Betsie bandaged her hand, she said repeatedly, "On your pillow!"

Corrie said, "Betsie, if I hadn't heard you in the kitchen ..."

To this, her sister firmly said, "Don't say it, Corrie! There are no 'ifs' in God's world. The center of His will is our safety."

Corrie later took that message around the world: "God's will is our hiding place."

What about you today? Are you facing uncertain times or trying circumstances? Heed Corrie ten Boom's advice.

*Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me (Psalm 23:4).*

– Beecher Hunter