

When is late too late?

By: Jeff Murphy

Recently I was reminded of how short life can actually be. One of my childhood best friends recently lost his fight with leukemia. Josh (JD) was first diagnosed with leukemia at age 11. I can still vividly remember when my mom told me about it and how scared I became that he was going to die. After a long stay in the hospital he finally arrived home. I remember his mom invited a group of his friends over to the house for a birthday/coming home party.

JD had a long fight in the beginning as he had to go in and out of the hospital a lot. Finally his leukemia went into remission for a while and I finally had the relief that all was going to be ok. We spent a lot of Sunday afternoons together at each other's houses playing football, basketball, army, GI Joes, swimming, and tag team wrestling his brother Chris.

As we hit those teen years we kind of went different ways as sometimes happens. Our interests changed, you make new friends in High School, but we were still friends just not as close anymore. We still hung out at church youth group, played on the church softball team together, played street hockey and football at church, volleyball and would beat on each other as we passed in the halls at school.

During those years Josh became active with firefighting, graduated high school, college, and the Reading police academy all while still fighting with leukemia. Over the past couple of years JD had to fight a different type of leukemia. His brother Chris gave bone marrow transplants and JD kept fighting and he would get better for a while until this last admission into the hospital. On his 34th birthday, January 4th his wife Shannen had to take him. After a couple of weeks in the hospital he passed away on January 19th at age 34. He leaves behind a wife of 4 years Shannen and a 2 year old daughter Lillyen. He also left behind his father, mother, brother, sister-in-law and 3 nieces.

I will miss him and will remember all the great times we had together, but I look forward to the day I will see him once again in God's presence, which brings me to my question. When is late too late? Do you know where you will spend eternity? JD was only 34 when God called him home. When will He call on you?

We don't know when we will die or how it will happen, but God does and He wants you to spend eternity with Him. The only way to do that is by admitting you are a sinner, acknowledging Jesus died on the cross and rose again for your sins and accepting His son Jesus as your savior. Don't wait for tomorrow because it just might not come. If you're not sure of the answer go to "[Gods' Plan](#)" on our home page.

Romans 10:13 "That 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."

John 3:16 – "For God so loved the world, that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in him, will not perish, but have everlasting life."