

Our Soul Waits on the Lord, Again

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"Our soul waits on the Lord, He is our help and our shield " (Psalm 33:20)

In Argentina we are presently facing a very serious health situation caused by a mosquito called Aedes aegypti. This mosquito is capable of spreading many viruses but of particular concern, presently, is the spread of Dengue Fever. This illness results in fever and flu like symptoms and in some individuals, it can be so severe as to cause death. Each subsequent infection of this virus results in more serious consequences.

Amazing how something as small as a mosquito can wreak havoc on a country so severely that health care systems are collapsing. Once again nursing teams are exhausted much like during COVID. There are so many concerns that are harbored by nurses, the fear of being infected by the mosquito and the exhausting care of those suffering the virus.

As nurses we are deeply involved in the care that is the result of the spread of this virus by this tiny troublemaker. We are fully exposed to this virus, looking for ways to treat, comfort and opportunities to teach preventative care. Nursing and more nursing are needed to carry out this tremendous duty of care in hopes of achieving the best results not only for the patient but for the entire healthcare team.

As Christian nurses, we know that nothing happens without the Lord's presence. We also are very aware that humans, because of their lack of care for the environment, have created a world that is an ideal breeding ground for these mosquitoes and other forms of pestilence and disaster.

The nursing community in Argentina is facing exhaustion and breakdown. The memory of the COVID pandemic is still fresh in our minds, add to this the seasonal illnesses and now this outbreak of Dengue Fever. The fears, the stress, the expectations, the fatigue are all still on the

surface of our beings and we continue to work in the midst of this new serious situation. Once again, as nurses, we find ourselves in a storm of difficulties.

The Psalmist praises God and says, *Lord, I hope in you, in your salvation*, and ends by saying in verse 22 of that chapter, "*Let your mercy be upon us, as we hope in you*" Psalms 33:22. It is a Psalm of praise, to the Creator and Preserver, and for us it must be of trust in the One who will guide us towards the end as we wait on Him. As we have faith, He has guided us through other storms and they passed, this one too, will also pass.