

Why this booklet is not easy for me to write



This booklet really is not easy for me to write.

I picture you, the reader, as someone facing the issue of terminal illness either for yourself or for a loved one or friend.

I do not just want to say the usual things people say. I want this to come across as real and to be truly helpful to you.

I have sat with loved ones as their lives have ebbed out and spent time with others moving towards the end of their journey.

I myself have a form of blood cancer.

Although, as I write this booklet I feel fine, I know what the possibilities are. That makes me want, even more, to write something relevant and that really makes a difference.

Not somehow, but triumphantly

A Christian friend of mine was diagnosed with terminal cancer soon after he lost his wife. Naturally, he was saddened by his wife's death and grieved over it as you would expect.

But there was something different about his acceptance of both his bereavement and his terminal illness.

He put on his mantelpiece a card that simply said, *Not somehow, but triumphantly*. He then lived it out. His sadness and growing weakness seemed to emphasize his personal peace and even his quiet joy.



Like him, you and I can experience God's overcoming blessing and help, no matter what lies ahead, if our personal trust is in Jesus Christ.

I want to be sensitive. Please forgive me where I fail, but some difficult points do need to be raised. Facing them, even if painful, can lead you to experiencing peace under God's gracious hand.