I have had so many thoughts this week. Sophie and Rayden both came down with the chicken pox. Sophie has really suffered this week. Her case has been extreme. Her little body is just covered. The past few days they have been in her mouth and throat. They hurt. She hasn't eaten much at all.

Sophie's approach with the chicken pox has been patience. The very best she can. She has struggled to sleep. Oatmeal baths seem to bring the most relief. One evening after a long day, she asked, "Grandma will I feel better tomorrow?" I said "Sophie no, you are going to have one more hard day, then you will start feeling a lot better. One more day, can you make it?" Slowly she looked at me and nodded her head. One more hard day.

It was a hard day. Sophie managed herself and kept her focus to just make it through one more day. The following night she started to feel slightly better.



While Sophie was very sick, burning a fever, blisters coming up all over her body, Rayden was having quite a different experience.

I have never seen a case of the chicken pox that was so mild. It was awesome. He got to play and rest. It didn't take long before he was begging to get up and help around the house. He also wanted Ice cream... and lots of it! He played with Clarity, watched a few movies, did school work... and while Sophie was up all night, Rayden slept soundly.

My thoughts have been on these two dear children. Both with the chicken pox but having a very different experience.



I have thought about our lives. Many of us experience the same things differently. If asked, Sophie would describe having the chicken pox as a terrible experience that was painful coupled with fever and itching. Rayden would say it was great! His fever lasted all of two hours, and with an afternoon nap he felt better by dinner. He got to sleep in and stayed at home playing, eating lots of ice cream and a mother on call for any little need...lol

As I have watched these two children have a very different experience this week, I have thought about mortality. We each have experiences unique to ourselves, each is different from another's. We all endure physical challenges. I have thought about the Savior. Sometimes life does not seem fair. Often one is suffering while another is not. Some of us really struggle physically, while others struggle emotionally or mentally. We each have personal struggles. However, each experience that we have should bring us closer to the Savior. Our Savior knows how we are feeling when others do not. He has experienced our pain, sickness and the suffering of our sins. He broke the bands of

death so we could be resurrected. This knowledge gives us hope as we face moral challenges.

New Testament

1 Corinthians 15: 52, 54

52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump; for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.
54 For this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.

Our Savior loves us. He will provide us with divine help and strength to bear the inevitable burdens of mortality.

New Testament

John 14:18

18 I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.

Sometimes adversity can help us keep our focus on the Savior and not the things of the world. I know that our Heavenly Father loves us. I am so grateful for His Son, Jesus Christ. It helps me to know our Savior knows how I am feeling during the hard days.

With Love, Leslie

Clarity also came down with the chicken pox. Her experience was similar to Raydens. Just a few spots, a day of fever and lots of attention! I am so grateful her case was mild.



