





PORTRAITS OF FAITH

“Sickness can do a lot of good things,” says Michael, who is suffering from kidney failure. Because his illness has increased his gratitude for the gospel, he says, “it is a good trial.”

LESLIE NILSSON, PHOTOGRAPHER

Michael Isaac

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At first I was angry.

“Why me?” I prayed. “I have served you, Lord.” After a while, I understood. The scriptures say, “He that hath faith in me to be healed, and is not appointed unto death, shall be healed” (Doctrine and Covenants 42:48).

Church members keep praying for me, but my health is getting worse. They think their prayers are not heard, but they are heard because they become better people and because I feel the love they show to me.

Even if I was healthy, how much time would be left at my age? Still, a lot is before me.

I have the Church. I have a way of contacting God through prayer, through fasting, through all the things we do. What else do I need?

Sometimes I say to myself, “Maybe that’s why I am sick—so that I could understand what a great thing I am in, what a great cause this is.”

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