

## August 2005 - Med Depot

Hopefully I will soon be the proud father of a new kidney stone. I found out I was “with stone” a couple weeks ago when the little guy announced his presence with the traditional blinding bout of pain for which these tiny fellas are so well known and loved. Ah, stones. What’re you gonna do with ‘em?

I’m hoping this one’s a pioneer stone, the kind that wants to explore the great beyond and see what’s out there, rather than a settler stone that thinks the spot he’s in might be a good place to settle down and raise a family.

So running back and forth to the doctor’s office these days gives me pause. Surely there must be some aspects of practicing medicine which we patients could do ourselves. Take, for example, guessing what’s wrong with the patient and then telling him to come back in two weeks if the prescription doesn’t work. We could pretty much handle that by ourselves without a doctor’s assistance, couldn’t we?

And this thought leads me to my next billion-dollar business idea. Go ahead and feel free to use it. I’ve got plenty of others.

How about this: We have Home Depot helping us to build it ourselves. We have Office Depot helping us to run our own businesses. Why not have a Med Depot, a place where medical do-it-yourselfers can go get supplies to do all those procedures that we normally pay big bucks to have professionals do for us?

Of course, we’ll still leave all the heavy lifting to the doctors. Those tricky procedures such as heart transplants, brain surgery, and robbing us blind, we’ll continue to let the experts handle.

But I see wide-open opportunity in other areas such as cosmetic surgery. Can it really be that hard? Take that part out. Tighten that up. Remove that. Personally, I think we’re ready to try it.

I can hear the commercials now.

“So, Carl, I’m going in Friday to get a hair transplant.”

“You’re not going to pay someone to do that for you, are you, Frank?”

“Well, sure. What else can I do?”

“You ought to get on down to Med Depot. They’ve got FullGrowth Hair Transplant kits on sale this week for only 29.95!”

“Really?”

“Sure! And while you’re there, why don’t you pick up a LypoQuick System to take care of that unsightly truck inner tube you carry around your waist?”

“Heh, heh. Yeah, I see what you mean, Carl! Thanks for recommendation. You’re a pal!”

Announcer: “Folks, next time you need superfluous medical treatment, think Med Depot!”

Of course, there’s some surgery that we just can’t do without such as the kind mentioned in Ezekiel 36:26—“I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.” (NIV)

The picture here is the old heart is beyond repair and in need of replacement. Talk about getting some bad news at the doctor’s office. But the good news, of course, is that though there is no hope for the old heart, a transplant is possible and comes with a 100 percent chance of success. After all, it’s God doing the operation, right?

It’s amazing to me the extraordinary measures the Lord goes to in order to demonstrate his love to mankind. He’ll do surgery and not even charge us anything for it. And I believe that’s because he’s already paid the price for us.

By the way, just a word to my good doctor-buddies on my e-mail list: Hi guys! You see how I kid all of you. I’m a joker, all right! Of course, you know that I think all those involved in your noble and highly valued profession are very important. No need to get offended and blacklist me or anything. Ha, ha. I’m just a harmless comedian, remember? You know how silly we are! Well, now, no hard feelings, right? Okey-dokey then!

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