

Pauline's Testimony¹

Pauline Maxwell

There is much I could say about Mervyn, since he was my husband for nearly fifty-two years, but there is one thing I think I really must say. Since many of you have been telling me of the kind and thoughtful things he has done, what I am going to say may at first seem inappropriate, but to me it is a most precious memory. He taught that through the power of the Holy Spirit, we *can* overcome our sins. He strongly believed that if we choose to plug into the power of the Holy Spirit, we can be victorious over sin. I want you to know that he practiced what he preached.

He had a tendency to become impatient and a bit irritable at times. I don't like to tell you this, but I want to give God the glory. Sometimes he would be sure he was right and that he had a right to feel upset. However, he had a deep desire to be like Jesus, and eventually the Holy Spirit must have impressed him that he needed patience. He began to recognize his impatience and irritability and prayed earnestly for victory.

I could see the Holy Spirit molding him into the likeness of Jesus. If he slipped up, he would acknowledge that he had done so and would tell me he was very sorry.

Recently he became concerned that he might become a disagreeable person to care for in his last days of sickness. He prayed that this would not be. From the testimonies of nurses and doctors, and from my own experience caring for him, I can truthfully say the Lord answered that prayer and gave him complete victory. He was able to beautifully reflect the love of Jesus right up to the end. I am confident that God will say to him, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant, . . . enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

¹William Fagal read this note from Mervyn Maxwell's wife, Pauline, as part of his sermon at the funeral service, July 26, 1999.