

Skip's Fist—God's Hand

This story is based on actual events as reported to the author by the male character. The names have been changed to protect the privacy of the individuals. You will definitely see the hand of God in the events.

Robin had married Skip against her parents' wishes. She could quote **2 Corinthians 6:14** *Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?* Her parents had taught her that she should marry a Christian. She knew Skip was a hard living, excessive drinking nonbeliever, but she loved him and trusted God to save him.

Skip had been raised in a home where partying, drinking, crude jokes, and foul language were the norm. He didn't mind if Robin was a Christian, but he did not intend to change his life. To his way of thinking, she knew what he was like when she married him and shouldn't expect anything else.

After they married, Skip joined the U.S. Navy and his drinking escalated, especially when he was with the other recruits. From home Robin knew the drinking was getting out of hand, but could do nothing about it.

The heavy drinking continued when Skip came home. Shortly arriving home the physical abuse began. Robin knew the emergency room well, and they knew her. Her family tried to intervene, but she would not listen to any reasoning or pleading. More than once her parents left her house in tears.

One Saturday night Skip was more drunk than usual. Standing beside the bed, he raised his fist; on the ring finger of that fist was the huge Navy ring that was Skip's pride and joy. Skip hit Robin in the eye. The ring left a gash on her eyebrow. Immediately Skip passed out on the bed.

Robin tried to stop the bleeding, but it was clear stitches would be required. Her eye was swollen shut making her unable to drive herself. She called her parents and asked them to take her to the ER. This time her siblings met them there. The entire family begged, pleaded, reasoned, and cried in an attempt to get her to leave Skip. She refused, stating that God would work in his life.

Her family took her home, left crying, and Robin went to bed about 3:00 a.m. Later that morning, Skip woke, rolled over and saw Robin lying beside him with stitches and a bandage covering her eye. He did not remember hitting her, but he knew what had happened. He thought to himself, *Any woman who would stay with a man after he treats her that way, deserves a better husband than I am.*

He promptly woke her up and said, "Get dressed. We're going to church." That morning, Skip walked the aisle and accepted Christ as his savior. Several months later, he surrendered his life for full time ministry. He entered a Christian college to prepare. That is where this author met him and had the privilege of hearing his story.

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