Three months to live

In 1994, I had surgery for colon cancer, and the doctors said I probably only had three months to live.

As breakfast is my favorite meal, two of my missionary friends took me out for a breakfast at Denny's Restaurant. This was to be the "Last Breakfast!"

For some reason, the restaurant was packed and busy! Probably there was a convention nearby and everybody came to Denny's for breakfast. Finally we were seated, our server gave us coffee and said she would return in a few minutes to take our order. She then went on to her other tables to serve them.

One of my friends wondered if she (our server) was possibly a Christian. There was nothing outstanding about her — ordinary, messy hair, stains on her uniform. However, there was something about her that stood out. It was quite evident that she cared for people. She smiled and ministered to others in her serving. When she came back to our table to take our order, I decided to ask if she was a believer. I said, "I know you are extremely busy, but may I ask a question? The doctors tell me that I do not have long to live. In fact, I may only have three months to live. Can you tell a man who is dying of cancer how to go to heaven?"

Can you imagine what a question this was for someone extremely rushed and busy, trying to sell bacon and eggs, and all of sudden this question comes out of nowhere? "Can you tell a man dying of cancer how to go to heaven?" Surprisingly, she did not miss a beat. She responded almost immediately, "I certainly can. Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved!"

I was surprised at such a quick, but wonderful response. I said, "Then, you must know John 14:6."

"Certainly," she replied. "Jesus said, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life. No man comes to the Father, but by Me."

"So, now, may I have your order?"

I don't know about you, dear friend, but this is the kind of person I want to be like. Even though it may be inconvenient and rushed, not the most inopportune time, I want to be able to point people to Christ. "I am the Way – without the way there is no going. To say, Jesus said, "I am the Truth – without the Truth, there is no knowing. I am the Life – without the life, there is no living."