

## Waiting Through the Night!

*“Then your light shall break forth like the dawn...You shall call and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, ‘Here I am’”.*

Isaiah 58:8-9

There is a Cherokee legend of the ritual that takes place in order for a Cherokee youth to become a man. It begins with his father taking him into the forest, blindfolding him and leaving him alone.

He is required to sit on a stump the whole night and not remove the blindfold until the rays of the morning sun shine through it. He cannot cry out for help from anyone. Once he survives the night, he becomes a man. He cannot tell the other boys of this experience, because each boy must come into manhood on his own.

The boy is naturally terrified. He can hear all kinds of noises. Wild beast must surely be around him. Maybe even some human might do him harm. The wind blew the grass and earth, and shook his stump, but he sat stoically, never moving the blindfold. It would be the only way he could become a man!

Finally, after a horrific night the sun appeared and he removed his blindfold. It was then that he discovered his father sitting on the stump next to him. He had been at watch the entire night, protecting his son from harm.

Through your financial support of Christian Care Communities YOU sit by the bedside of Christian Care’s older adult residents in eight different Kentucky communities. Sometimes the resident simply needs a word of encouragement because of having just made a life changing move. At other times the resident feels sad and lonely because of the loss of a loved one or friend. Sometimes the resident is afraid because of the uncertainty of growing older. At other times, blinded by pain, the resident is nearing the end of life. YOU are there through eight chaplains and hundreds of other Christian Care staff waiting with them for the sun, or of even greater importance the Son of God, to shine into their darkness. Thank YOU for being there!

November 29<sup>th</sup> is a fifth Sunday and all across Kentucky Christian churches will be receiving Fifth Sunday Offerings for Christian Care Communities. We hope that YOU will participate in the offering joining a host of others sitting through the night, giving comfort and hope, waiting for the sun (Son)!



**Christian Care**  
Communities

*Since 1884*