

Painful Blessing



Life throws things at us all the time. Sometimes, it is a pebble that bounces off and we hardly notice.

Sometimes it is a rock but we artfully dodge the rock and congratulate ourselves on our nimbleness and resourcefulness. Sometimes life throws a rock and it is a direct hit — ouch!

We do our best to recover and we talk about life being hard. And sometimes life throws a boulder and we are powerless to escape the crushing impact. Six years ago, life threw a boulder at the Viggiano family.

It started with a vision problem in Jill's husband, Gordon's left eye. Over the next 9 hours, they went from a happy, healthy family enjoying Spring Break, to a vision problem, to a 911 call, to the Emergency Room of a hospital that had never been a part of their health insurance plan, to Jill having a frank discussion with the Organ Donation Lady. In 9 short hours, Jill was facing the possibility of losing of her husband, financial ruin, and raising their 2 children alone.

Gordon survived, but not without severe consequences. He had lost the use of the right side of his body, his ability to speak and think, and his memory. What was the boulder that crushed their beautiful moment in time? It was a massive stroke and their lives will never be the same.

In *Painful Blessing*, Jill tells the story of devastating loss, hope that comes from the faith that sustains her, finding joy in their new life, and the decision to embrace recovery as both a team sport and a lifetime endeavor.

Audiences will:

- **Glimpse** the far-reaching effects of a life-changing event on faith, marriage, and family
- **Travel** through the ongoing recovery experience and the lessons that come with it
- **Appreciate** the dedication and humor required to be the wife and caregiver of an entrepreneur
- **Reflect** on the foundations in their own lives
- **Be inspired** to face the challenges that inevitably come and find the courage to face each day with hope and joy

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