



June 27, 2005

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THE STAND BLOOD

Life itself, blood is. It makes everything in the human being work. The right blood makes the body work right. Wrong, end of the body.

And, without the shedding of blood, there is no remission for all that is wrong. Blood is powerful stuff, the most powerful.

So, if we want to do the very best we can as human beings, one of the very best things to do is to:

GIVE BLOOD!

Few things in life create more value for little sacrifice. When we give blood, wonderful and beautiful things happen. So, why not offer an arm? Giving blood is a beautiful thing to do.

According to the American Red Cross, less than 7% of eligible men donate blood. There is no rationale for that, no justification of any kind. Giving blood for the benefit of someone who may need it to live is completely safe, easy, and even beneficial for the donor. Many of us have a morbid fear of needles, whether injected in us, or tainted by use in someone else. The fact of the matter is new needles are used every time, there is absolutely no danger of infection, and the injection of the needle is almost pain free. THE PROCESS OF GIVING BLOOD IS COMPLETELY SAFE. YOU GIVE, YOU GAIN.

So, we ask, what is in it for me?

1. Your risk of heart attack may drop as a result of giving blood. That is because giving blood decreases the iron levels in the blood. High levels contribute to heart attack. The effect with regard to blood iron can last for months. So, give.
2. The people who take your blood for others will thoroughly check your blood pressure, valuable information for you.
3. They will tell you, hopefully once again, what blood type you are. You really need to know that, and you should carry your blood type in your wallet so that, in the event of an emergency, should you need blood, those who help you will know what you need.

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4. You will receive free hepatitis testing. In this day and age, contracting hepatitis is much more likely to happen than ever before. Find out!
5. You will be tested for HIV. Most of us who do not use illegal drugs or engage in risky and bizarre sexual practices never think about contracting HIV. Nevertheless, it never hurts to know you have not contracted the virus.
6. Those who take and will responsibly use your blood for another will check and evaluate your cholesterol. More than ever, in a day and age of stress, tension and pressure, knowing your cholesterol levels is so very important.
7. When you give blood, you can bank your own blood which you may need for a planned surgery. No matter how safe and pure the blood of another, there is nothing like your own blood when you need it.
8. You will, spiritually and altruistically, help somebody else, if not yourself. Do unto others as you would have them do unto you. How marvelous to know that someone else would give you what you need, in an ultimate moment when death threatens. Giving blood is not only loving and philanthropic from a human standpoint, it can have marvelous meaning from a spiritual standpoint.

Giving blood takes less than an hour, results in little or no physical complications, puts you back at work or in life's normal schedule without complication, and makes you feel like a million dollars physically and psychologically. So, please do it!

Call the Red Cross, or any similar organization in your area, and at your convenience, give some of your precious, life-generating blood for the life-generating good of a fellow human being, another in need made by God just like you!

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