

# I'll Make It

*“And He said unto her, Daughter, be of good comfort: thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace.”* **Luke 8:48**

*“If you are handed it, you can handle it.”* This was a quote verbalized by 18-year-old Raven Johnson. Raven has been handed some challenges in her life, but with God, she has handled them.

Raven has been diagnosed with a severe form of juvenile rheumatoid arthritis and an immune system disease which causes her body to attack itself. As a result, over the past three years, she has been hospitalized numerous times, been placed on life support and one time, she was given less than a 20 percent chance of living. Each time, however, God brought her through what doctors and others deemed impossible.

In May of this year, Raven awoke, yet again, from a coma. She listened silently as it was explained to her the toll this latest attack had taken on her body. However, when she learned she had missed her high school prom, she burst into tears.

Wanting to encourage Raven, the hospital chaplain and staff came up with an idea. They decided to surprise her with a small, intimate prom. Raven's classmates and teachers eagerly joined in with the planning of the festivities.

This once small event evolved into a major affair as local businesses contributed food and flowers. A photographer and DJ offered their services for free. One company donated a giant sheet cake adorned with Raven's picture and the words *“Prom Queen 2009.”*

As the party plans continued to gain momentum, someone at Atlanta's Channel 11 “Alive News” heard about Raven's gala and decided to air it. Teena Gamble, a professional makeover artist and friend of Raven's family, was used as a decoy to help with the surprise. Teena told Raven that “Alive News” was doing a story on her business and they wanted to film Teena giving Raven a makeover.

On May 13th, glowing and smiling with a new hairstyle, makeup and an exquisite, yellow gown, Raven was wheeled into a conference room that had been transformed into a ballroom. When the doors opened, Raven was greeted by a host of family and friends, and cheering classmates—dressed in their prom attire. Millions witnessed via television and Internet links as Raven and her visitors shed tears of joy.

As the hospital staff and family had hoped, Raven's special prom had brought her elation and given her strength. It had given her so much strength, in fact, that she gave herself another challenge. She declared that not only did she want to attend her high school graduation—she wanted to walk across the stage.

With graduation scheduled for Friday, May 29th, and with less than three weeks to prepare, Raven endured days of intense rehabilitation to help her reach her goal. Although her doctors were skeptical, Raven assured them she could do it. *“I'll make it,”* she told them. Through it all, Raven's determination was evident. As she stated: *“When things start to get a little rough...I'm like, okay, May 29<sup>th</sup>, May 29<sup>th</sup>, I've got to get to graduation.”*

Once again, God did it...Raven made it! On that glorious day, which was her “Good Friday,” Raven walked (yes, walked) across the stage and received a resounding, standing ovation. By popular demand and by God's command, media (including NBC's "Today" Show) covered Raven's graduation conquest—God's message—and made it available worldwide.

Raven's story is an inspiration and a reminder that we serve a mighty, all-powerful and awesome God. Many of us may be going through some type of adversity, but regardless of what it may be, if we are handed it, with God's help...we can handle it.

Memory Verses

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday



**Isaiah  
40:29**

**Luke  
4:18**

**Psalms  
46:1**

**2 Corin  
4:17-18**

**Isaiah  
26:3-4**

June	August	1	2	3	4
S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	Pray we will allow the power of God to give us strength	Thank God— He helps us to <i>bounce back</i> from our lowest points	Even in times of struggles, pray we will be a support to others	Pray we will allow God to turn our moments of faint into faith
5	6	7	8	9	10
Pray for spiritual healing and restoration in the church	Pray for miraculous healing for those afflicted with various diseases	Pray for healing and safety in our streets	Pray for healing and moral restoration in our government	Pray for healing and restoration within the family unit	Pray for deliverance for those suffering from various addictions
12	13	14	15	16	17
Pray we will realize that God is our refuge and strength	Thank God for being our present help in times of trouble	Thank God— His mercies are new EVERYDAY	Pray we will stay in the presences of God through good and bad	Thank God— He is able to keep us from falling	Rejoice, God has seen us through problems before
26	27	28	29	30	31
Thank God for showing His power— He can do the impossible	Pray we will not let circumstances keep us down & discouraged	Praise God— troubles don't last always	Thank God— because of His grace, we have eternal hope	Pray that our faith and victories will be a testimony to others	Thank God— Our present sufferings cannot compare to God's eternal glory
19	20	21	22	23	24
Pray we will keep our minds stayed on Christ	Pray that our peace will increase as we put our trust in God	Give Praises— LORD JEHOVAH is everlasting strength	Pray we will fill our minds with God's words and songs of praise	Praise God— He keeps His promises	Thank God— He can give us perfect peace even in the midst of a storm

*Praise & Prayer*  
**JULY 2009**

