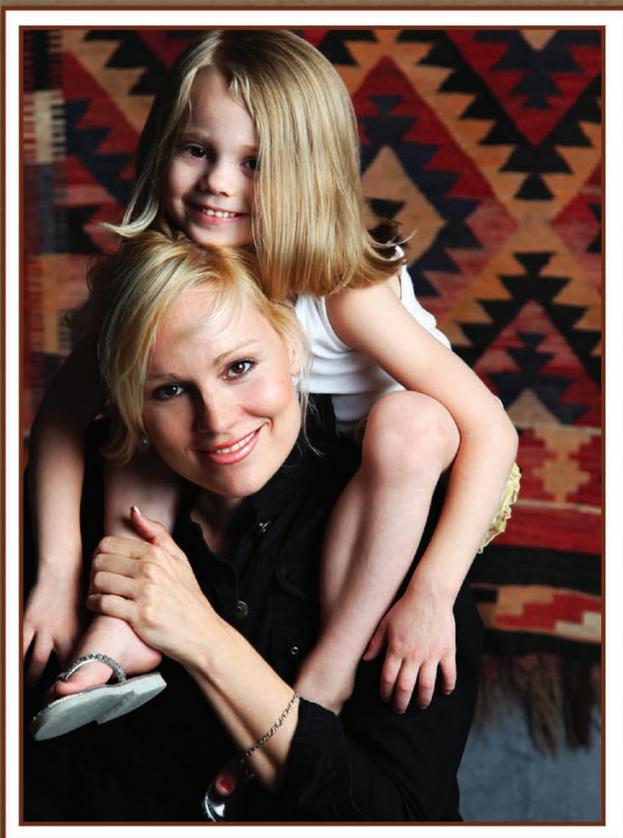


shauna spratt

● the Lord's faithfulness in the midst of tragedy ●●●●●●●●●●



give it a try.

At the encouragement of her husband, Mike, Shauna enrolled at Dallas Baptist University and slowly began taking classes. Because so many of her classes were offered online and in convenient locations, Shauna was able to work towards a bachelor's degree and keep her full-time job at AT&T.

But then the unthinkable happened. Shauna was six months pregnant with their first child when her husband died suddenly of a massive heart attack. He was thirty-three.

During his short life, Shauna's husband had always encouraged her to live with urgency, understanding that the Kingdom of the Lord is at hand. Although suddenly a single mom, Shauna knew she needed to continue the

international mission work she and her husband started—so she quit her job and began working full-time at her church as the missions coordinator.

But not only that: she also knew her husband would want her to finish her degree.

Piling on as many classes as she could, Shauna eventually achieved her goal and graduated in May of 2010 with a Bachelor of Arts and Sciences in Business Administration. Immediately, she enrolled in master's classes and began pursuing a dual degree in Global Leadership and Business Administration.

"The Lord has taught me during

my time at DBU that Jeremiah 29:11 isn't just an inspiring scripture," Shauna explains. "It's actually a promise God demonstrated through my own life after my husband died. My decision to finish my education at DBU as a widow and single mom demonstrates the part of that verse that promises a future."

Shauna is now half way through her graduate studies. She is working for East-West Ministries, a missions-sending organization where she serves as the director of mobilization. Her daughter, Ladan, is now six and in first grade. With every event and birthday that passes, Ladan's age is a reminder of how much time has passed since she lost her husband.

Yet Shauna chooses to bless the Lord, knowing that He is faithful whether He gives or takes away.

The promises of Jeremiah 29:11, she understands, aren't just for her but for her daughter as well. "Completing my education, despite the

obstacles, is something that I'm doing for my daughter to show her that through God's plan He does have a hope and a future for us," Shauna expresses.

"From the time I enrolled in the adult education program to finish my undergrad and now half way through my dual master's, I have been amazed by the way the staff is willing to help me be successful. I could not have accomplished all that I have at another school."

Photo courtesy of Kim Robbins Photography.

"My decision to finish my education at DBU as a widow and single mom demonstrates the part of [Jeremiah 29:11] that promises a future."

When it came time for Shauna Spratt to make a decision about college several years ago, she opted for the corporate world and put her education on hold. At the time, her father was terminally ill, and she didn't want to put any more strain on her parents than they already had.

So for nearly a decade, Shauna worked with AT&T, holding down jobs throughout the corporation which ranged from the human resource office to serving as an expert witness. Going back to school had been on her mind, but it wasn't until Shauna noticed a local university was offering undergraduate classes in her downtown office building that she decided to

...and what does the LORD require of you, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God? Micah 6:8