

## The Story of the CHELSEA Bracelet

In May of 1993 I lost my two-year-old daughter, Chelsea, to leukemia. It was one of the darkest and most painful periods of my life. I was struggling on all fronts to make sense of this tragedy and to find some spark of joy for life again. And I was failing miserably at everything but feeling miserable.



During this dark time, I kept finding beautiful, smooth white stones. They were such a contrast to the way I was feeling inside. I would see them in the most unlikely places – a grocery store parking lot, by the slide at the playground, when I was walking my kids into school. It was as if that stone was there just waiting for me to find it. I didn't know what the stones meant, but I knew they had a message for me, and I knew that message was from Chelsea.

This continued for months, and then one Sunday during church, I finally got my answer. On this particular Sunday, the Pastor was interpreting the story of David and Goliath. She explained how David represents the spirit of triumph that resides within all of us. That place within us that knows what we're made for great things...and knows we can handle more than we can even image. She explained how Goliath represents obstacles in life. Big obstacles. Those things that seem huge and insurmountable. The things in life we just really don't think we can defeat or overcome. I was all too familiar with Goliath!

And then she said, "But what almost no one ever talks about are the smooth white stones that David used to slay Goliath. And those stones have a message for us too." I knew the next thing she said wasn't really going to be words she wrote for the congregation that morning, I knew they were going to be my message from Chelsea.

She said that those smooth white stones represent our ability to 'slay any giant' and overcome any obstacle. That those smooth white stones are a reminder that there's nothing we can't overcome to go on to live a happy life full of love and joy. I knew it was Chelsea telling me, "Mom, go out and slay your giants. Go out and beat this sadness that is such a part of you right now and be happy again."

I made quite a scene that Sunday in church as I sobbed with joy and understanding and connection to my daughter who had just told me what I most needed to hear. I knew Chelsea wanted me to overcome this deep grief and come out the victor – just like David did with Goliath.

That was the first of many messages I've received from Chelsea over the years. But it was probably the most profound. The message to BE HAPPY is the one I have held in my heart for over 20 years and has become the foundation for my life's work.

I created this Chelsea Bracelets as a reminder for myself and women everywhere that there's nothing so big you can't overcome it and NOW is the time to choose to BE HAPPY!

I know it for sure. An angel told me.



To order your Chelsea Bracelet, go to [www.kimhodous.com/shop](http://www.kimhodous.com/shop).  
A portion of all proceeds goes to promoting bone marrow registration.  
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