

## Cruel Companion

*by Casey Barton, p. 50*

**When doctors couldn't heal a Covenant pastor's searing headaches, he learned to accept his pain as an integral part of his identity—and then it left.**

1. What remedy works best for you when you experience a headache?
2. Despite the intense pain Casey Barton was living with, he continued his education, work, and family life. Which aspects of his daily living would you have found the most difficult to maintain in the face of such unrelenting pain?
3. Barton still believed in prayer, but he had stopped praying about the pain in his head until someone else stepped in to pray for him. Have you ever felt committed to pray for someone else the way the prayer warrior from his church did?
4. What do you think Barton meant when he explained that the great contradiction of life after surgery was that he actually found himself grieving the loss of the pain he had experienced for so long?
5. Barton got tattoos during and after his battle with a pituitary tumor. If you were to memorialize a significant life moment with a tattoo, what would it be?