

Standing In The Gap

This ministry is for the sole purpose of reaching and touching people's lives with the love of Jesus Christ through acts of kindness. Matthew 6: 3 says, "But when you give to the needy (spiritually, physically, emotionally and financially), do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing." "Not to us, O Lord, not to us but to Your name be the glory, because of Your love and faithfulness." ~Psalm 115:1

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Dear Friends and Co-Laborers in Jesus Christ,

We were singing a song thanking our Savior for what He has done for us. As we continued singing, the Lord impressed upon me that people are thanking me for material things and not the eternal blessings that He has bestowed on us. He told me to look up Ephesians Chapter 1 where we are reminded of the spiritual blessings He has given to those who love Him. The list is awesome ~ He chose us before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in His sight; He predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ; He has given us His glorious grace; redemption of our sins; He gives us wisdom and understanding, the mystery of His will; we are marked with a seal, the Holy Spirit, guaranteeing our inheritance and the list goes on! Do we know how spiritually blessed we are?!

On February 1st, my dad, 94 years old, father of 11, grandfather of 30+ and great grandpa of 25, went home to be with the Lord Jesus Christ. He had known Jesus Christ for 62 years and couldn't wait to be with Him! He never wavered in his faith and told everyone wherever he went that "Jesus is everything!". He was an evangelist. As young children, he took us everywhere to share the good news of Christ's love and forgiveness ~ nursing homes, city missions, prisons, parks, street corners and his home was open to everyone. His memorial service was a testimony to the legacy he left. Lord, help us to be living a life worthy of your calling so that we too will leave a legacy for you.

My dad's death has inspired and energized us at SITG to continue to press on in our mission to love everyone we can through acts of kindness for the glory of Jesus Christ. The time is short, and we must try to win as many as we can to Christ and to also encourage our brothers and sisters in Christ.

The women we have been mentoring through bible study are often our hands and feet out in the field. They have helped with our storage unit in keeping it organized and they help by picking up others and bringing them to the bible study. For most of them, this is a burden on their finances so you help with some of the costs for fuel, lunch and costs to get transportation to the places we need them to be. We had Christmas and Valentine's Day gatherings at low-income housing units, we assisted in organizing a Godly program at the PPG Winter Garden Stage for Christmas and the ladies are always anxious to help set up, clean up and be a part of what is happening! They are critical links to the different cultures and neighborhoods we go into.

One of our precious ladies had a step-mother who would bang her over the head with a fry pan. When we met her, she did not want a table or chairs in her kitchen because it was too painful. Since meeting her, she has had some healing and yesterday our wonderful helpers, the Batchelder men, delivered a beautiful dining room table, chairs and china cabinet to her home. She let us put it in her kitchen! She is planning on having bible studies at the table and meetings to organize functions to better her neighborhood. Several of us are going this week to help her get the rest of her house in order. There is healing in the name of Jesus!

Your gifts have been expended on women's winter clearance coats; supporting our little girl in India; helping our fellow servants and ministers who are working with Mexicans, Haitians, Cubans, poor children here in Pittsburgh, and young teenagers going on missions' trips; single women, disabled women, homeless women, married women who are being abandoned by their husbands, families who are victims of house fires, individuals suffering from horrible dysfunctional homes and widows who are desperate to pay for their overwhelming medical bills, groceries, utility bills, broken hot water heaters and cars, beds, household items and the simple supplies they need to take care of their children and themselves; you blessed a powerful woman of God from Boeltzhoover who has 14 children and didn't have a stove to cook for her children and a woman who didn't have enough to cover her rental for her appliances; a family that one of our bible study teachers met on a street in Pittsburgh and the spirit told her to help them; you assisted a victim of violence get her children united with her from another country; a prisoner needed encouragement; two foster teenager girls didn't even have undergarments when they arrived at the foster family.

Additionally, you paid a portion of sending containers via ship filled with supplies to Haiti; a gift to a woman who had a terrible car accident, a troubled teenager daughter and was off of work and waiting for her disability check; a young lady was at the hospital caring for her sick father and she received a coffee gift card; a young, Christian couple where the husband is trying to go to school to become a minister and his wife has migraines and hasn't been able to work; a discouraged, married couple suffering from cancer and blood clots was encouraged by you; a women diagnosed with fast-growing sinus cancer was also shown God's love; and a couple suffering from long-term disabilities and financial struggles from a car accident that was not their fault.

Thank you for your faithfulness in giving to this ministry. May the grace of our Lord be poured on you abundantly today, along with the faith and love that are in our Redeemer, Jesus Christ.

Because Jesus cares, gives and lives,



Ruth for all of us

Pennsylvania Representatives: Laura Batchelder, Maureen Boeltz, Jill Casaldi, Dawn Hurley, Judy Kendall, Ruth Mueller and Marsha Nylund

New York State Representatives: Anna Amrhein, Julia Jeffords, Joanna Smith, Gladys Schmidt

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