

# 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 Servants of our LORD Jesus Christ,

When we all get to heaven, what a day of rejoicing that will be! When we all see Jesus, we'll sing and shout the victory! BUT, until then, we press on towards the mark for the prize of the high call of God in Christ Jesus – Philippians 3:14.

The word "instantly" or "immediately" is mentioned many times throughout the book of Mark. Mark was instrumental in originally giving SITG a clear vision to reach people in crises quickly whenever necessary.

One such instance happened recently. One of our representatives, Joanna Smith, from New York, called regarding a woman who is homeless and was living with a neighbor. Another neighbor, who the homeless woman was trying to help, pilfered her bank account. She had no gas money to get to work and had no groceries. Joanna has been ministering to this woman over the last few months, and you provided the assistance to "love her right where she was at" quickly. Another time, around 5:30 p.m., a war-torn looking woman and her son, stopped us, and asked if we could give them some money. We were headed into a place to eat and told them we could get them a meal. You purchased them a hot meal and the woman just kept thanking Jesus for the meal. She was so happy and full! We also prayed with them to get employment and to know Jesus. They had been asking for help all day, and you, our givers, were the ones that God chose to come through for them.

On a regular basis, we continue to disciple individuals through the weekly bible study. Judy continues doing an excellent job with the Dress A Girl project. Just recently, she had the Peters Township Girls Varsity Basketball Team in her home and had them sewing the dresses and learning, most importantly, how to serve others. We continue to minister and love through the tea parties. We hosted a party in California, PA, with 40 beautiful people and soon we go to the Shadyside area of Pittsburgh to do the same at a nursing home. We are praying about a tea party opportunity in Cleveland, OH, at a low-income housing project to shine Jesus there. We continue to find places for people to live and to help them move their belongings. For example, not long ago, we assisted a displaced, 90-year old woman find a place to live and moved her in.

For years, the Hospice Ladies' Auxiliary in Mt. Lebanon, have had fundraiser sales for those in their last stages of life. After these sales are over, they graciously donate to SITG household and furniture items to enable us to minister to those less fortunate. You thanked them with a gift.

A few specific situations – 1) We received an emergency call from Beltzhoover from one of our bible study ladies. A family witnessed a crime and had to flee the scene instantly and came to her house. They didn't even have time to put their shoes on. So, you purchased shoes and groceries for this family. They are now in the Witness Protection Program. 2) A daughter of another one of our bible study ladies just moved to Braddock, Pa. She has four teenager children. One of her sons was coming home from the store, and because they were new in the neighborhood, the local gang shot 36 bullets into their house. Her son was shot in the foot. They also had to flee their home. She needed groceries to be able to stay at her "safe place" for a few more days. You did it!

Single women require groceries for their kids. Adults and children with cancer, those having surgeries and other life-threatening illnesses, need help with bills. Working, struggling families need encouragement. Broken and hurting people, with disabilities and messed-up marriages, need to know someone cares. Christmas and birthday gifts for the lonely and those who can't afford them is critical. Partial rent for families who are close to being homeless is necessary. Families who have loved ones coming off of alcohol and drugs are requiring hope. Tired pastors, church leaders and widows are being remembered and thanked. Gift bags were distributed to 50 low-income, elderly apartments by a young lady doing a National Honor Society project. The depressed, oppressed, sick and dejected are receiving flowers to let them know "Jesus Cares".

Dawn Hurley, a board member, gave her resignation in December. God has called her elsewhere. We thank her for her faithful, dedicated service over the years.

Thank you, once again, for your faithful giving.

Because Jesus cares, gives and lives,



Laura, Maureen, Jill, Judy, Ruth & Marsha

Board Members: L. Batchelder, M. Boeltz, J. Casaldi, J. Kendall, R. Mueller, M. Nylund

NY Representatives: A. Amrhein, J. Jeffords, J. Smith, G. Schmidt

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