

THE DELIVERY

April 2018



In March,

We received: 422,041 lbs. of product
 We served: 6,922 Families
 288 Seniors
 828 Adults
 3,998 Youth
 20,915 Children
 787 Volunteer Hours
 126 Salvations /
 Recommitments

From One Beggar to Another

For our most recent seniors outreach, our staff had the privilege and joy of visiting the residents of the Franklin House in Eustis. We, thus far, have had a very fruitful season in Eustis as we've continued to engage with the senior communities there.

Just when we think we have one successful venue, the Lord blesses us with another by means of referral. We've been further blessed by the Franklin House's generous invitation for us to return this month; asking us to again offer assortments of food and the message of the Gospel to their residents.

But sharing the Gospel with seniors can sometimes be one of those "Gulp!" moments for Christians. In just about any given circumstance in life, it's typically neither comfortable nor favorable to *tell* people, older and more seasoned than you, what they ought to do in their lives. As men and women who have wisdom and experience that far exceeds much of our own, it's always a humbling principle to call (and *plead* with) them to do something, that, frankly, they often seem to feel confident they can do without.

But it is here, that we recall the winsome heart that we are to have as we labor with lost souls for Christ's sake. As it

certainly can apply to the declaring of the Gospel, Paul writes in Philippians Chapter 2, "Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others". It is with a spirit of humility that we are to go about evangelism. *This* is our platform for unapologetically speaking truth, even to those older in years than us.

The words of Daniel Thambyrajah Niles have shown to be particularly helpful in the personal preparation of calling seniors to Christ. He states: "Evangelism is just one beggar telling another beggar where to find bread". This simple but profound statement is surely an accurate illustration of who the evangelist is in relation to the hearer! There can be no lording over someone else in sharing the Gospel since we, ourselves, are merely beggars that have graciously been given food unto eternal life!

However, a frequent response from seniors as we share the Gospel with them, stems from the traditional argument of "When I was your age, I had

to walk uphill both ways barefoot in the snow!"; which is to say, "been there, done that, religion isn't for me". The truth is, many of our older generations *have* seen a lot in their lives. They in many cases were at some point under serious tribulation without resources, and, for many, were refused assistance and care by the local church. It breaks our hearts to hear this as being a factor contributing toward their opposition to the Gospel.

But just as we claim no precedence over those whom we share the Gospel with, we also do not claim the faithfulness of the church to have precedence over the faithfulness of God or His Word. Though the church has in many cases failed, God has not. His Word remains true as a testimony of His enduring love and mercy over His creation. After all, it is not the local church that we are calling sinners to repentance and faith toward, but our Holy God.

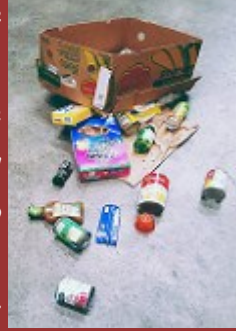
If there's one thing that we can take away from our experience of God using us to reach seniors at our outreaches, it's that God truly does use crooked sticks to draw straight lines!

Evangelism is just one beggar telling another beggar where to find bread

-D.T. Niles

What are the Odds?

Just as it's only once you bring your car into the shop that it suddenly begins working again, so too, does the banana box full of product only bust once you're carrying it midway through a highway intersection at noon. Why we recently had to carry a box across the highway is another story, but what we do know is that there are few things as humbling as having to frantically recover a dozen rolling cans and bottles before the opposing traffic's light turns green! Ministry can take you down some pretty unfamiliar roads... and crossings!



Thank you... To all of our fabulous volunteers who participated in our Easter Food for Families project! We were so blessed to not only have families present, but also volunteers representing numerous different groups within our community! Our very own Ocoee Police Dept. contributed to the efforts, in addition to Marshalls Dept. Stores, Highpoint Church, and Disney VolunteARS. There also were volunteers from a variety of men's rehab centers: Total Freedom, Spirit of Life and Hogar CREA.

We also would like to thank the Orange County Public School Board and the administration and staff of Ocoee High School for their support of the Food for Families project by providing us a venue, free of charge, for almost ten years! This has been a *substantial* gift to continuing the event each year.

CALENDAR

Tax Day, 2018



Tuesday, April 17

Tax Day is almost here! Please contact us if you need a receipt for your 2017 donations to Southeastern Food Bank/Bread of Life Fellowship, Inc.

Thank you again for your generosity in 2017!

Stamp out Hunger
2018



Saturday, May 12

The US Postal Service has dedicated this day toward collecting donations for local food banks. We would encourage you to participate by setting a bag of food next to your mailbox for your local carrier to pick up! Southeastern Food Bank will also be benefiting from this food drive through the Windermere, Ocoee, Winter Garden, and Gotha post offices!

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