

Harvest Time

What is your passion? What is the one thing that you are willing to fight for? The good Sunday School answer of course, is, Jesus. In the past couple of weeks I have been confronted with ministry ideas, only because I have seen needs. As you may know, one of my favorite ministries is We are Called to Care. We have heard Shari speak and I know first-hand what amazing things they do for children in the foster system and adoptive parents. My family has many adopted children, and I know what support can mean. In the '80's I worked at Dickson Valley camp and have a heart for camp ministry, so I try to support Jubilee Camp, we have heard Robin speak also. Today I saw a video about a man who was diagnosed with terminal cancer. He prayed that God would give him the strength to have a ministry around this including being a good witness during this time. He was told about 6 months but God gave him 5yrs. In that time, he started taking Bibles and highlighting the comforting verses that were in his bible and he would give them to terminal patients. His friends helped and by the time he died they had given out, and mailed out over 6,000 Bibles in 40 states, 8 countries in two languages. His oncologist, who didn't seem to be a believer, said, "No one has ever had the impact that this man has had on my patients or my nursing staff". Can you imagine? Giving a Bible to a non-believer at the hardest time of their life with comfort and love on every page. There are ministry opportunities everywhere we look, because there are hurting people, people in need everywhere we look. As we leave the sanctuary every Sunday morning, we see the sign that says, "You are now entering the mission field". The sign says that because we are being trained in worship service to serve the Lord. All throughout the Bible we are told to love your neighbor. Are we doing that? Are we loving them by telling them about Jesus? Are we giving comfort when we can? You do not have to go out and start the crusades, because there are a million ways every day that we can do things for people. There are ministries that we can support. I will assure you that the 2 ministries that I mentioned could use volunteers as well as financial help so if you do not have the money to give, there are many options. If those are not what you are looking for, bring a cupcake to a shut-in. A flower from your garden. Shut ins are more interested in the company that anything you would bring.

Matt 9:35-38 ³⁵ And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction. ³⁶ When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷ Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; ³⁸ therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”

I know, I am busy too. Some weeks I walk into church and realize, I didn't take time for anyone else this week. Did I tell anyone about Jesus? Did I serve? The news is overwhelming and anxiety is high. We are in the end times and the urgency for people to learn about Jesus is definitely growing. People are depressed and sometimes hopeless, even Christians. But I can tell you, that if I get depressed, what I really need is to look outside of my little world and do something for someone else. It always blesses me. So, I am going to start my mornings with the question. What can I do today for someone else. If you do, you will be blessed too!!

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