

**A Message from Jeanette Schaffer, Director
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Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth. 1 John 3:18

I normally share about how the ministry is impacting the lives of those coming in to seek help, but today I want to go another direction. I want to talk about how the ministry impacts me through the people coming in. Well, specifically how God used one man to impact me.

Since I've begun this ministry, I have had to take an occasional day off for one reason or another and then I make the time up for the missed time on another day, but not once have I had to take a sick day off. I thank God for that, but this morning, for the first time ever, I didn't take a sick day off, but I did come in one hour late. The reason being that last night I wasn't feeling so well. It wasn't physical, but rather emotional. I couldn't sleep the entire night because I was despairing about life's regrets, as we can sometimes do to ourselves. The truth is, we are not victims in Christ but overcomers, but I didn't stand on that truth but rather let myself wallow in misery. In short, I had a very bad night. I believe the enemy can attack ferociously in the night hours, and instead of running to the Word and crawling into God's lap (so to speak), I let myself become very overwhelmed. As a result, I did not sleep a wink. And I was very, very tired.

So.....my first customer of the day comes in. I wondered after providing financial help how I was even going to minister or pray for him, as my state of mind wasn't in a good position to do so. Well, God has an amazing way of ministering to us when we need it the most! Before I could even muster the strength to offer to pray for him, he said, 'Jeanette. You help a lot of people. People say you are very kind. I hear it from a lot of people". It bolstered me up when he told me that, but then he went on to tell me a story that God used to strengthen me even more.

He said, 'Several years ago, I was driving down North Main street, across from Walmart, and a car was blocking the road, so I got out to help. There was a man in the car, and he said he had sat there for an hour because in that time no one stopped to help. All the cars were turning to go around him, as his vehicle was blocking the road. He simply wanted help to push his car out of the middle of the road. I was happy to help him, and after we got his car off the road, I offered to take him anywhere he needed to go. I did so and didn't think about it much after that. Well, not too long ago, my own car broke down in almost the same place the other man had broken down years ago, in front of Walmart. It turned out I was out of gas and I managed to coast my car into the Sam's Club gas station. I had no gas, but I had money. The attendant said I could not buy gas there as I was not a Club member. I told him I could pay, and my car was completely out of gas. The attendant stood firm and said he could not help. I didn't know what I was going to do. And then a man approached me, used his own Sam's card, and put gas in my car. I was very grateful and wanted to pay him for the gas. He refused to take my money, then asked, 'don't you remember me? I'm the one you helped all those years ago when I broke down!"

When he told me that story, for the first time in my ministry it wasn't my customer crying because of a touch from God, it was me! What an awesome reminder that our Great God cares so much that He orchestrates circumstances and moves people to be at the right place at the right time, to show us how personally He is concerned. In His amazing way of turning things around, God used a gentleman that I should have been ministering to, to minister to me. What a great King we serve! Never underestimate how your kindness is touching those around you.

Have a blessed day.

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