

Partner with us to help Afghani Refugees

“For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.’...‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’”

Matthew 25: 35-36 & 40

Listening to the world news these last few weeks has brought many different emotions for so many of us: grief, concern, confusion, frustration, distress, just to name a few. Often helplessness threatens to creep in too. What could I possibly do to help? A friend recently reminded me that the needs of the world are inexhaustible and overwhelming, and yet our Lord calls us to love others as He loved us. Rather than asking ourselves ‘what needs of the world should I try to meet?’, we can come to Jesus and ask Him ‘how can I serve you today?’ and He will guide us into being his hands and feet in small and big ways.

In my time praying over Afghanistan the Lord reminded me that as a San Diegan, dozens or perhaps hundreds of those fleeing will become my neighbors as they are relocated here. I was reminded of the ways the Scriptures encourage us to treat our neighbors and specifically the “strangers” (or foreigners) among us, such as the passage above. When I reached out to the organizations that are currently receiving Afghani refugees, such as JFS, among their many opportunities to serve was donating household items to furnish homes for people fleeing here with nothing. I want to extend an invitation to you if you are also looking for an opportunity to be the hands and feet of Jesus to our new neighbors so that as a community we can work together to be a blessing.

Specific ways we can help:

1. September Household Donation Drive
 - Bring your gently used household items to the church any Sunday throughout September and we deliver it to JFS where it will be distributed to incoming refugees
 - Invite your friends and neighbors to donate as well!
2. Donate funds
 - Funds received will go to creating welcome baskets and to purchase items most needed for newly arrived families
3. Prayer
 - for the safety of Afghans who are fleeing their country and for those who cannot
 - for the Taliban
 - for world leaders to have wisdom in their next steps

For more information and for a list of most needed items please contact Kasi Bodiford in person, by text 760-681-9248 or by email sbodiford91@gmail.com

