



Psalm 100:2: Serve the LORD with gladness...



A girl receives a take-home bag of hot meals

Isaiah 6:8: Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here am I; send me."

UPDATE FROM PASTOR RUSS AND ANNE LORIA

The Father's Heart: established April 30, 2011



Be Jesus' hands extended in love

We want to thank everyone for praying for Russ's dad over the years. The Lord answered our biggest prayer and he accepted the Lord last fall. We saw the Lord transform him for a couple of

months, and then we were blessed to be with him when he took his last breath here on earth on January 27 and entered into heaven, his eternal home. Psalm 116:15 says, "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints."

AS WE think of followers of Christ we can't help but remember Billy Graham who just also passed and is in the presence of the King. Billy Graham was one of the most well-known if not the most well-known evangelist of our time. He had a calling from God and he was obedient to follow it, and because of that millions heard the word of God and many came to the saving knowledge of Jesus.

At The Father's Heart we don't have a crowd of thousands and sometimes not even a hundred. But

as Jesus says in Luke 15:4, "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he loses one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one which is lost until he finds it?" You see, in God's eyes every soul is precious.

THE LORD is faithful to show us time and time again that it's not the number of people who get ministered to that matters at The Father's Heart, it is the individuals.

A man came up to Russ at an outreach and said, "I had been brought up in the church, I have been coming and hearing you for years, and it wasn't until last weekend that I surrendered my life to the Lord."

A MAN named "Nick" had a bad ankle, but people at the outreach prayed for his ankle and he was

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healed. He came up to the bus lifting his leg and said, "Wow! It has hurt for so long and all it took was just a prayer." We shared with him that it was the power of prayer to Jesus as the Great Physician.

A WOMAN named "Rita" came up for prayer, sobbing and saying that she had been so bad that the Lord didn't love her anymore and could never forgive her. With tears streaming down her face a servant hugged her and shared with her

The Father's Heart

Our mission is to share the love of Christ with as many people as possible and try to enhance the quality of life for all whom we witness to on the streets.

We share the Word of God and feed and clothe people of the streets of Rochester, bringing hope that Jesus will grab hold of their hurting, lonely, hopeless hearts to be His hands and feet extended in love!

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that the Lord is mindful when a sparrow falls and how much more He cares for her. She also shared that the Lord is willing that none should perish, that He casts our sins as far as the east is from the west, and that if we repent and believe in Jesus He will forgive us. Oh, how much He loves her!

That was just one day and one outreach. We are all called to be like Billy Graham, but most importantly we are called to be like Jesus. He commands us in Mark 16:15, "And He said to them, 'Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.'"

WE ENCOURAGE you to come to an outreach. Bring yourselves, your family, your youth group.

To find outreaches where you can volunteer, go to our web page at thefathersheartroc.org and click on "Schedule/Newsletters." Groups should sign up by calling (585) 472-4331 but individuals can just show up!

Be His hands and feet. You never know who you are going to minister to: It might be the next Billy Graham or a family member a saint has been praying for, or you might be an answer to a prayer from someone who is asking, "Has God forgotten me?"

EITHER WAY it is precious in His sight. Come and be a blessing, and get blessed and encouraged. Come out and be His hands and feet extended in love.

As 2 Corinthians 5:15 says, "and He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again."

Love in Christ,
Russ and Anne Loria

Extended Ministries of The Father's Heart

By Frank and Diane Rivaldo

Let's bring the gospel to a desperate world

One of the greatest evangelists of our time has gone to be with our Savior, whom he served all his life. What a tremendous ministry he had.

When I think of Billy Graham and what a faithful, humble servant to Jesus he was, and of the many souls that came to Christ through this ministry, it makes me realize more and more that we all have the same gift and purpose in life, and that is to share the message of salvation to as many people as we can.

CERTAINLY Billy Graham did exactly that. He was a great man but also an ordinary man who decided to allow the Lord to work through him

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Outreach needs

Toiletries: Body wash, conditioner, toothpaste, disposable razors, small packs of wet wipes, gallon-sized resealable zipper plastic bags.

Spiritual food: Children's Bibles and Bible story books.

Donations can be dropped off at The Father's Heart headquarters, 678 Lake Avenue, Wednesday through Friday from 12 noon to 5:30 p.m. For information, call (585) 472-4331.

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to bring others to salvation. Those of us who are saved have a great responsibility to share the gospel with everyone who has never made a commitment to Christ.

Billy Graham had a pure and simple way of presenting the gospel, and I think because he kept it simple many people responded to his invitation to receive Christ.

WHEN WE allow the Holy Spirit to speak through us the good news of salvation, and are speaking from our heart, people listen and seeds are planted. We may not see the large numbers that came forward at those crusades, but just think what a harvest could be reaped if everyone helped just one person to know the love of Christ.

The Father's Heart is a good way to come in contact with people who need salvation. Being available and being obedient is all the Lord asks of us in sharing the hope within us.

A BROTHER in the Lord named Dave is another example of being available. He is legally blind and the Lord used him to share the gospel at the Pinnacle Place outreach. He gave a powerful message to the many people that were there. He didn't let his disability stop him but totally relied on the Lord to speak through him.

Pastor Dan continues to give the message at The Pines of Perinton, and as a result of that outreach he has church right in the same building the same day at 6 p.m. The group that attends is small but we pray that the Lord will bring more.

THE FIELDS are ripe for harvest but the laborers are few. We can't all be evangelists, but if we allow the Lord to speak through us one person at a time we will be fulfilling the Great Commission of the Lord to share the gospel with all people.

None of us knows how the words

spoken from our hearts out of love can touch someone and help them know Christ. In these last days let us be about our Father's business delivering the good news to a lost and desperate world.

JUST AS Billy Graham heard the words from our Lord, "Well done, my good and faithful servant," we too will one day hear those words from Him if we are faithful.

We are blessed to live in a nation where we still have the freedom to preach the gospel, so let's do so while we can. Just sharing our story of how we came to Christ might be enough to turn a heart to Christ.

"FOR THE word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart" (Hebrews 4:12).

Extended Ministries conducts outreaches from spring to fall on the second Thursday of the month at Northside Park in East Rochester and year-round on the third Thursday of the month at Pinnacle Place apartments in Rochester and on the third Saturday of the month at The Pines of Perinton apartments. To volunteer, contact Frank and Diane Rivaldo at frivaldo@outlook.com



A delicious hot meal is served.

God Speaks Through the City

Part 25: Psalm 118:17-21

By a servant in Christ

Sitting in his wheelchair, he recalls God's miracle

Although this story was not easy to write, it reveals how Jesus turned a man's mess into his message, a life-or-death test into a testimony, and ultimately a victim into a victor.

MY HOPE is that the words of a man immersed in sin, severely chastened and on the brink of death, will bless you like it blessed me. Against what appeared to be insurmountable odds, he did not perish. His chains were broken and through His amazing grace now has eternal life.

"Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy" (1 Peter 4:12-13).

AS ALWAYS, preparations had gone according to God's plans and a large crowd was responsive to the word. After Pastor Russ finished preaching, I noticed a man sitting in a wheelchair across the busy street observing the proceedings.

Given the busy traffic and the gentleman's physical challenges, I crossed the street and offered to

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bring him food and groceries. "Derrell" was not interested in the offer at all; "The only food I need is the word of God."

AS IT turned out, Derrell was familiar with The Father's Heart ministry but had always listened to the message from a distance. I mentioned how difficult it must be to be in a wheelchair in this neighborhood. His response was unexpected:

"Not long ago I used to walk and run just fine, but being crippled in this wheelchair is the best thing that ever happened to me."

I remained quiet as he continued: "A couple of years ago I was not in a good place. One day as I walked out that door (pointed at a nearby grocery store), a guy jumped me from behind, put a gun on top of my head, and shot me. Here, take a look."

I GOT close to him and saw a dark, scarred gunshot wound on his head, about half an inch deep, surrounded by a deformed area of his skull. "Look here at the back of my neck. That's where the bullet came out.



To donate to The Father's Heart through PayPal, please go to thefathersheartroc.org and click the "Contact/Donate" tab for the PayPal icon. If you want a receipt, include your address on the optional address line and a receipt will be prepared for you.

Thank you!



Prayers for a new believer.

Imagine the path it took through my brain."

Both gunshot wounds were difficult to look at. Although shocked by what I saw, my thoughts were focused on one thing: How could Derrell be alive?

HE DISCERNED my confusion and explained: "Here's the rest of the story... Doctors told my family there was no chance for me to live. But I lived. Only because of God, I lived. Took about a year to get my wits back. Although I would never walk again, that don't matter. What matters the most is that Jesus was there for wretched me. He gave me life. His miracle and love made me surrender my life to Him.

"Every time I sit on this wheelchair, I remember His miracle. He saved my life, but more important than that, He saved my soul."

AS DERRELL was telling his story, a couple of neighborhood men had

joined us and were nodding their heads. One of them added commentary: "Yeah, it was ugly. Can't believe the brother is alive..."

Eventually Derrell needed to leave, so we prayed and hugged good-bye. The Lord's plans for him were different than what the shooter intended, or his doctors expected.

"**'FOR I** know the plans I have for you,' declares the LORD, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future'" (Jeremiah 29:11).

The Lord chose Derrell to live, not die. By sharing his powerful testimony and graphic gunshot wounds, Derrell is now the Lord's vessel declaring His majesty and sovereignty. Psalm 118:17-21 says it all:

"I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD. The LORD has chastened me severely, but He has not given me over to death. Open to me the gates of righteousness; I will go through them, and I will praise the LORD. This is the gate of the LORD, through which the righteous shall enter. I will praise You, for You have answered me, and have become my salvation."

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