

The Sharing Org

Ministry to the Adult Foster Care Community

December 2012

Ministry Moment:

I met a woman in one of the homes that is the mother of a guy that I knew from high school. We talked cordially about the common people that we knew/know and, of course, her son. Over time she has become one of the biggest fans that I have – she just loves me. I have seen her grow in faith, which has been very encouraging, and she has taken to inviting her son to attend the services. About a month ago (or maybe two now), he did visit during a service. It was nice to see an old friend, and he did join his mother during the worship service.

The other day my grandmother who serves in the some of the homes with me was speaking to this lady, and the lady informed her that it was the hope in Christ that she received in our services that helped her get out of bed in the mornings. I was thrilled to hear that because it means that God is working in the lives of people through our efforts. She also told my grandmother something else that really took me by surprise when I heard about it. The woman told my grandma that because of her son's time with us in the worship service he has quit drinking.

I do not remember what was said, and I do not know if any of it has anything to do with us or this ministry, but I am thrilled to hear that God is moving in the life of this woman and her family. I pray that all the residents will see God so active in their everyday lives.

~John

Prayer Letter:

Can you believe that it is December already? The time just seems to fly. As we complete the 2012 year, I pray that you will know Jesus on a deepening level throughout all of 2013. That is my prayer for me, the residents, and you. Thank you for joining us in this ministry and making it possible for us to share the grace and love of Jesus with the residents whom we serve.

By the way, Merry Christmas! That's coming up pretty quickly, isn't it? We have seven (yes, 7!) family Christmases to schedule and host or attend. Between family and friends, it will be a blessed time of fellowship and a great time to share with people the reason for the Christmas season.

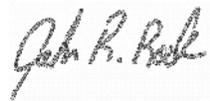
*“Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign.
Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and shall call his name Immanuel.” (Isaiah 7:14)*

I would ask you to pray with us as we enter into the New Year. This will be our 10th year of doing this ministry and serving the residents who are not able to get out of their homes to worship with their local congregation. I pray that it will be a year to reflect, remember, and proceed. (Sounds like a book title doesn't it? *Hmmm.*) Anyway, when we began this ministry in 2003, I had mistakenly thought that the turnover rate of residents would be very high because I believed that people in the nursing care community passed quicker than they actually do. Do you know that there are about 10 people who have been in our weekly services since day 1? Some have family and some do not, but they all appreciate that I come every week and spend time with them. Please pray with us as we desire to up the ante a bit and really focus on Jesus the God/man who is alive and well in each of our lives.

Finally, please keep us in prayer this month as my wife is scheduled for a procedure in the hospital on 12/19. People say that it is no big deal but funny, it doesn't feel like “no big deal” to me. Please ask God to give the surgeon, anesthesiologist, and all of the nursing staff wisdom as they will be entrusted with the jewel of my life.

I will close here for now, but please have a very Merry Christmas and a blessed conclusion to 2012. Please be sure to spend a little time to examine your own relationship with Christ our Lord to discover the living Jesus in every aspect of your life - Blessings to you and your whole family.

Merry Christmas!



John