



Monday Matters

February 3, 2014

Who's At The Door?

It's late at night, you're sitting in your favorite chair watching your favorite program on the television. You hear a knock at the front door. You aren't expecting anyone but after the second knock you decide to check out who's at the door. You look through the peephole and who do you see? It looks like Opportunity is at the door. Do you open it or do you go back to your chair and your favorite program?

Anthony (our son), along with his wife Kristin, are missionaries to Bethel, Alaska, and they have been in Anchorage for a short time. A few days ago Anthony shared this story. He had places to go and things to do but when he heard the knock on the door, he opened it and invited Opportunity to come in.

While out raising funds for the DREAM to REALITY Campaign for the Bethel Dream Center's building remodeling project, we have been working out of Anchorage. Tonight I was bringing food over to a fellow minister, Dale Crandall, who runs a feeding program for the homeless. When I pulled into the church's parking lot I saw what I thought were clothes piled up against the dumpster.

They were not clothes. There lying on the ground, was a homeless man trying to sleep on a three inch thick slab of ice, using one of his shoes for a pillow. He was already turning hyperthermic, shivering, obviously smelling of alcohol, and there was an orange hypodermic needle laying just a few inches away. He told me his name was Robert and was content to lay on the ground and give his life away.



Compelled to take action, I grabbed him by the lapels of his jacket, pulled him up into the sitting position and explained to him - while still holding tight his jacket - that God was sparing his life tonight, to which he replied with a muttered, "Thank you." Dale called CSP (Community Service Patrol) to get him into a warm spot for the evening and I wrangled him over to my borrowed van to warm him up.

While waiting on CSP we prayed. The prayer wasn't soft, it wasn't sweet. It was heartfelt and stained with the reality of Robert's situation. It was an authentic cry for help.

So, tonight Robert is safe. He is in a warm place and, most importantly, he rededicated his life to Christ.



Somebody's Knocking At Your Door

Robert's tomorrow is in God's hands - and that is where we have to leave him. If you were to look into Robert's not so distant past you would see that he is from Western Alaska - the region the Bethel Dream Center will serve. He, like many people, left Western Alaska and moved to Anchorage in hopes of a better life. Unfortunately many thousands end up homeless and living a nightmare. The Bethel Dream Center can help with the epidemic of homelessness in Alaska. We can serve and salvage the people nobody wants. They are worth the effort and heartache - Robert is worth the effort and heartache.

Opportunity will soon knock on your door - open it to see what God has in store for you..

Do you want to learn more about Anthony and Kristin and the Bethel Dream Center? Check out their website at www.BethelDreamCenter.org or www.NelsonNews.org. Their email address is Nelson.Expedition@gmail.com.



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