



Kingdom Life Ministry Presents:

Keys to Kingdom Living

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Dear Friend,

Such Love, Such Gratitude

Many years ago Dr. R. T. Williams related the following true incident about a ship that had gone down in a storm. On board there were only half the lifeboats needed for the passengers. What could be done? The captain got a plan. He gathered the passengers together and said: "We have just enough lifeboats for half of the passengers. Before you I have placed a hat, in the hat I have put, as many cards as there are passengers. Babies not counted. On half of these cards is a cross the other half I have left blank. We want all to pass by and draw a card. Those who get a card with a cross on it will be permitted to enter the lifeboat. That is your ticket. Those who draw a blank must remain on the sinking ship."

The passengers said, "It is fair." And so they all filed by and reached into the covered hat and drew out a card. Were they drawing life or death? It was a very solemn time and not a word was spoken. Among those who passed were a father, mother and child. They solemnly drew their cards and passed, too afraid to even look at their cards. Finally the husband looked at his and was quite happy for he had drawn a cross. The wife looked and she had drawn a blank. One ticket to life the other ticket to death.

The husband quickly exchanged his ticket with her. She hesitated but he drew her to him and looking into her eyes he said, "Yes, you must! But I have just one request. Be true and meet me in heaven. Take care of our baby and the day she is twelve years of age sit her down and tell her of this tragic incident, my love for you both and how much I long to be with you in heaven."

There was no time left. The ship was about to go down and listing terribly. The man kissed his wife and baby good-bye and tenderly helped them into the boat. Soon the old ship sank and he along with it. The years sped by, and the day the little girl was twelve years old arrived. True to her promise, the mother took her into the living room and related the sad experience to her. She told her how her father had taken their place. The father's picture was near by and as the mother was relating the story to her the little girl wept bitterly. She reached out and drew the picture to herself and kissed it and pressed it against her cheek and said, "Oh Daddy, dear Daddy. You were a good daddy. You died for us and I love you so."

Such love, such gratitude. But think now of the sacrificial love of Jesus;

He did not die for His friends but for his enemies.

"While we were yet sinners Christ died for us." How could we not love and serve Him with all our hearts.

Sacred to us all is the memory of Jesus Christ. He took our place on the cross and gave his life that we might live, and be with Him once again in Heaven. I have read the above account many times and found myself impressed by each individual mentioned in the story. From the hard but fair choice made by the captain and the crew to not be included with the passengers in receiving a card. The father who gave up his life so that his wife and child would live. To the mother who was so faithful to the promise made on that disastrous night which changed her life forever. And then the young girl who realized for the first time the sacrifice made by her father and her pledge of undying love and devotion to him.

In so many ways we ourselves were in a similar situation and there was one who died so that we could have life. But how many times have we had a chance to remember the sacrifice of one who loved us and died for us. This past weekend because of your faithful donations and love for others you have been a big part in helping us tell others about Jesus.

A Simple Way to Love

It was Saturday and we had just arrived at G Street in Philly to a small church where we were giving out frozen turkeys and sacks of groceries to the families that were in need. I was carrying cases of canned goods through the sanctuary into the back room for distribution when I first noticed her.

She sat on the edge of the pew looking tired and cold, her white hair and weathered face blended in with her long gray coat. Outside the cold wind whipped around the buildings and at times found its way inside the tiny church where she was sitting and she would involuntarily shiver in response. She was someone's mother or for that matter grandmother but her story would not to be learned this day. There was no coupon in her hand for the food we were handing out, but she had heard we were giving away turkeys and groceries and she was in need. Her patience was amazing as Lois told her if she

would just wait for an hour or so till the give-a-way was over we were sure someone would not show to get their turkey and we would be able to give her what someone else didn't need. So she sat alone on the edge of the pew and silently waited. For close to an hour she sat alone taking in the warmth and peace of the place. Finally Lois went over and sat down beside her and let her know that we would love to give her what she had waited so patiently for. And after prayer she passed out of the small church carrying her turkey and sack of groceries.

We had met many of the people that had come at earlier outreaches. When I was greeting them I realized that something had happened. We were no longer strangers; we were the people with the "big blue tent". For years Bill and Getty, John & Gayle and Lois and I along with the many volunteers had treated the people with respect and dignity. They were now treating us like part of their community. I may not have known all of their names, but they remember us, welcome us and trust us because of all the 'good will' that had been sown during the past several years.

Gayle B. told me of an incident from this outreach that stood out from all the others. "This past week as I helped hand out coupons for the free turkeys. (If you don't limit the invitations, there would be more people than turkeys and people would be hurt and feel exploited.) We still had a few left at the end of the day and I asked God to show me people that I could bless. As we were driving down the street I saw two young women with some children and stopped. I said we were going to give away free turkeys and did they need one. They were very taken back but said "yes" and were very appreciative.

I had forgotten about that until these same young women came in to pick up their turkeys. When they saw me they gave me a big hello and hugged me. I thought to myself, "Do I know these girls?" And then I remembered that we had given these strangers on a street corner a coupon for a free turkey. I had not remembered them, but they had not forgotten me! I was so blessed that they had been so blessed by a simple act of kindness."

So you go on an outreach. You work, you love and you minister to the best of your ability believing God to somehow use you to bring his Kingdom into this dark place. Many of the people say "thank you" and you smile. But when you go home you sometimes wonder, "Did we make a difference?" I know that God sees our little efforts to love his people. I'm convinced that they remember too.

Much love,



Rex and Lois

Merry Christmas and Thanks to all of you.

As we look upon another Christmas in celebrating our precious King and Saviors birth, we come with much gratitude and thankfulness for the incredible blessing it is to be His adopted son and daughter. No more orphans, adopted and fully accepted for who we are into His Kingdom of all love, faithfulness, peace, and joy.

Our prayer is that in this wonderful season of celebrating His coming to earth. That we can grasp the wonder and meaning of it all in a fresh revelation of the greatest gift given to all mankind, the gift of His son come to earth as a tiny baby. Because," The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth." Precious Jesus, the light of the world. Prince of peace, mighty God, Emmanuel with us.

And our prayer for you also is that you will know the secret place in abiding in Him and live under the shadow of His mighty wings. For our deliverer has come and He is always standing by ready to give us rest even in the midst of this busy season and in every moment of our lives here on this earth.

We come with much thankfulness for all of you and send our love and blessings to each and every one.

Merry Christmas and Much Love,

Would you consider giving a special Year-End financial gift?
We are in need of \$6,000.00 to purchase a vehicle for the Philly Outreach.
We would be honored if you would join hands with ours and be apart of this important work.
Thanks and God Bless
We are a 501 C-3 tax exempt organization