



*Grace
Place
Ministries . . . "Ordinary People Serving An Extraordinary God"*

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MAKE A DIFFERENCE

AUGUST 2016

In the year 2000, I started into full-time ministry on the streets of New Orleans. To say that I was completely overwhelmed at what I saw and heard on those streets and in the projects would be an understatement!! My head and heart couldn't compute with the needs of so many! During that time, someone sent me this story and God used it to bring everything into perspective. God is so very interested in the one . . . He told me to just love the one that was in front of me. All these years I have never forgotten what the Lord said but I can still get overwhelmed sometimes. We really can make a difference and I have always said that God would have started Grace Place even if it were just for one person!

THE STARFISH STORY

Once upon a time, there was a man who used to go to the ocean to do his writing. He had a habit of walking on the beach before he began his work. One day, as he was walking along the shore, he looked down the beach and saw a human figure moving like a dancer. He smiled to himself at the thought of someone who would dance to the day, and so, he walked faster to catch up. As he got closer, he noticed that the figure was that of a child, and that what he was doing was not dancing at all. The child was reaching down to the shore, picking up small objects, and throwing them into the ocean. He came closer still and called out "Good morning! May I ask what it is that you are doing?" The child paused, looked up, and replied "Throwing starfish into the ocean." "I must ask, then, why are you throwing starfish into the ocean?" asked the somewhat startled man. To this, the child replied, "The sun is up and the tide is going out. If I don't throw them in, they'll die." Upon hearing this, the man commented, "But, young man, do you not realize that there are miles and miles of beach and there are starfish all along every mile? You can't possibly make a difference!" At this, the child bent down, picked up yet another starfish, and threw it into the ocean. As it met the water, he said, "I made a difference for that one."



I want to encourage each of you to make a difference with just one person. You may be at the grocery store, in your office, on the job, at school . . . Anywhere, and you will see someone who looks like they need a word of encouragement or a helping hand in some way. Always ask Holy Spirit what it is you are to do and then just get on out there and make a difference with the one!

Thank you to all who have given into Grace Place so that we can continue to make a difference in someone's precious life! The Word says in Psalms 41:1, "**Blessed is he who considers the poor; the Lord will deliver him in time of trouble.**" Whether poor in this world's standards or poor in spirit. . . let's share the love of God and change the world one soul at a time!!

Rhonda

Meals served in July
2954!!

Volunteers serving
243



SERVING TOGETHER!!

These grandparents had the joy of serving in the soup kitchen recently with their grandchildren. What a great way to teach the next generation!!

We will be boxing up summer clothing soon and getting ready for the cold winter months with clothing for men, women and children. We appreciate all the nice winter clothing donations that you donate! Thank you!!

- Needs**
- Canned goods
 - 16 oz. styrofoam cups
 - Napkins
 - Men's shoes
 - Household items
 - Blankets, linens, towels



*“Do what you can,
with what you have,
where you are.”*

Theodore Roosevelt

