



Homeless ministries in Colorado

Hope in Action

Isaiah 40:31

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Dear Friends and Family;

Merry Christmas! Two simple words that mean so much. The joyful birth of the Christ Child is what we mean when we say Merry Christmas. The Christ child born to a man and woman to grow up and then to die for all of us, to save the world. The homeless need that message as much as anyone. Many tell me that they have heard it before. Some say they have not really thought about it even if they have heard it. Some are so sad and so hopeless. We share God's love with them and pray for them all.

We read the Christmas story in the Bible of mother Mary given the responsibility of giving birth and raising the Son of God. The task was great and her means were small; is this how a homeless mother feels daily? We wonder if while Mary was in labor she was wishing for a better place to give birth to our Savior. Did she desire for more for her son and for his entrance into this world?

I had the desire for more the other day, I was passing out blessing bags and saw a homeless man. I pulled over and asked him if he would like a blessing bag and blanket. He was shy but said yes please and as I approached him I wished that I had more for him. He was a homeless vet who was young, about 30 and had lost both his legs serving our country. He stood on the side of the road holding onto his crutch with a sign that said, "any little thing helps." I wished I had more, I wished I could have thanked him all day for his service. I had a desire to stand with him longer and listen to him but he was shy yet so thankful for my meager offerings to him.

Any little thing does help but does it seem enough when we are approaching God's children? Never. Did the manger seem enough for Mary to put her child in? Was the blanket and blessing bag enough for this vet who gave so much at such a young age for us to have freedoms and safety here in our country?

We serve many homeless in a year. This year we served over 1200 homeless people. Some of them stay in our thoughts and prayers for a long time and they are often the ones we think of as we continue the addition, work on grants, and pack blessing bags. The homeless that are children or vets, the elderly in wheelchairs, or the ones that are so broken that our hearts break with them. They are why we continue to serve God and serve the homeless. It is a joy to share God's love with them, to give them a little hope and a little peace.

May you also have hope and peace in all you do and may your holidays be full of God's blessings.

Sincerely,

Ed Rennells,

Anita Rennells,

Meredith Peters

