

THE REQUEST

The prayer request she made that Sunday morning during the service was simple, heartfelt, and challenging. She repeated it the next week, too...and the next. The invitation her plea held was just too much to pass up for one person in the congregation who heard it. Something had to be done.

Mary must be around 80 years old, has Parkinson's disease, and slowly gets around on a walker. She lives at an assisted living home just around the corner from the church with about 11 other ladies who live with varying stages of health and awareness, many of whom are very lonely and have no family or friends who visit. Mary's petition each of those Sundays was simply to ask for prayer for the residents and their need for interaction with others.

At the end of the service the first week, a friend talked to me about how someone should do something for these ladies at the home that Mary had such a burden for. The following week, she started talking about how she herself ought to do something. After the third time Mary's request was shared, my friend started to formulate a plan.

What if she just went to visit for a half hour a week? Better yet, what if she gathered a few others and took them along to sing songs? Music has a way of connecting and communicating as little else does, and her plan was put into action. The weekly visits, then, spread to another affiliated home, and about four or five now

gather each week to go sing, encourage, and love on these sweet people. The repertoire includes hymns, silly kid's songs, and old favorites. It is incredible how even some residents with memory issues who don't talk much otherwise can sing every word to a song. Beautiful, really.

You know, it really doesn't take much to have a positive impact on someone else. With Mary's heart for those around her, God used her request to encouraged her fellow residents—through

my friend, who is not only encouraging the lovely souls at the assisted living home, but also those who were inspired and invited to go along, too. What will this progression lead on to?

Quite often, the most meaningful things in life are the most simple. And the simplest things are the most appreciated. Who is it that sits among your circle of friends and acquaintances that could be blessed by the sharing of your time and abilities? Or even by your request for prayers and help? They are there—all around you. Be encouraged to not only see them, but to do something about what is needed. It will surely be a blessing.



WRITERS BLOCK

It is truly a joy to be able to continue helping those serving in the mission field—with their text editing, written communication, and graphic design needs. *WRITERS BLOCK* is now underway, currently working with missionaries in Belgium and Spain.

We are also seeking to meet and connect with others who are serving around the world, as well as small mission agencies here in the US, to see if there are others we could serve in this way.

There are so many stories of what God is doing that need to be shared as an encouragement to other believers, and as a testament to God's faithfulness and love. But if they are not communicated clearly or well, they are often overlooked, and opportunities for encouragement and support are missed.

It is our heart here at Writers Block to support those serving all over the world in this needed, practical way.

If you or your church support mission workers who would benefit from writing, editing, or graphic design help, feel free to direct them toward the project (contact information below). We would love to expand this service to others who could benefit.



GET INVOLVED

After only two short months of operation, and given the wonderful results we are already seeing, we are even more convinced of the merit and value of The Encouragement Project. God is doing incredible things, and it is a privilege to be a part of this effort.

There are so many ways that you, too, can be involved in serving the Lord and encouraging others. One of those ways is to be a part of *THE SUPPORT TEAM* for The Encouragement Project as a whole—or any of the specific projects we are working on—in these ways...

- Prayer ~ this is the most essential part of our ministry. We cannot do without it!
- Finances ~ it would be immensely helpful if you could join our team in this way. Would you help with a monthly gift of...
 - \$10 ~ *ground* level
 - \$25 ~ *creative* level
 - \$50 ~ *encouragement* level
 - Other amount (anything is a blessing!)
- Things ~ we are accepting donations of yarn (for HUGS and KISSES) and children's books (for low income children through our partnership with the Craddock Center.)

THE ENCOURAGEMENT PROJECT is run solely with the financial gifts and donations of those of you who are interested in helping and encouraging others through this ministry. We greatly appreciate your willingness to be a part of this team.

Gifts of any amount are helpful! Monthly (preferred), once in a while, or one-time gifts will go toward seeing believers encouraged, and those in need helped.

Checks made payable to "The Encouragement Project" can be mailed to:
The Encouragement Project
PO Box 452
Alpharetta, GA 30009

If you prefer to set up a monthly gift, please let us know and we will send you the banking information.

The Encouragement Project is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. All gifts are tax deductible.

CONTACT US... WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

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