

WITNESSING@WORK
From WorkLife Blog

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16 (NIV)

I took the risk of sharing with one of my close work associates about my husband's recent diagnosis of melanoma cancer. Further biopsy surgery would determine just how serious it was. I heard a deep sigh on the other end of the phone and I found myself listening as he told me all about his wife's struggle - with melanoma cancer.

Things worked out for my husband, but my friend's wife lost her battle that New Year's Eve. The morning of the funeral I prayed for my friend, his two teenage children, and their extended family and friends. I talked with Jesus about the grief and pain they would face.

Is it possible that by understanding the grief that comes from losing someone in this world we can relate to the grief Jesus must feel when a soul is lost for eternity?

In John 11:35 we see Jesus grieving at the gravesite for his friend Lazarus: "Jesus wept" (NIV). Just days before Jesus went to the cross, he was overcome with emotion at the spiritual blindness of his own people: "As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it and said, 'If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace - but now it is hidden from your eyes'" Luke 19:41-42 (NIV).

Superior work and excellent character provide a platform for evangelism. Then we must listen to the Holy Spirit's leading about how we can help our coworkers take the next step in their journey toward a growing relationship with Jesus Christ. Take a moment to consider how often you are asking the Holy Spirit for opportunities to help work associates toward Christ. The Father is the one drawing our coworkers to Himself (John 6:44), but we must be available and willing to change our plans when the Holy Spirit leads us to share our faith with co-workers.



LIGHTHOUSE

Reach Restore Refine

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February 16, 2020

We welcome you to all our services!

Sunday:	10:00 AM	Sunday School
	11:00 AM	Morning Worship
	11:00 AM	Kids Church
Wednesday:	5:30 PM	Fellowship & Devotion

Announcements

The Check By Nancy Hughes

February 23: This month's Special Offering will go to The Help Center.

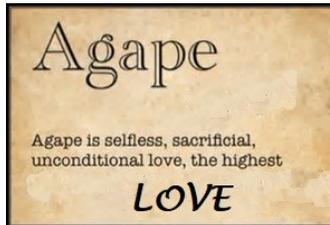
March 6: Church Women United will hold a service on Friday March 6 at The Canopy Fellowship, registration 8:30am. Sis Kasey Wiley will be leading a group Bible study. All ladies encouraged to attend.

March 15: Church Bowling Party at Edgewood Bowl from 3:00 PM to 5:00 Pm.

Don't forget to discuss Sunday School & Kids Church with your children!

This week in Kids Church we will be learning about **AGAPE LOVE** and what it means. We will also be working on looking up Bible verses!

"And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love is". Ephesians 3:18



Thought of the Week

*"God's faithfulness is the one constant in the equation. He is the Rock on which we stand."
— Paul Silway*

"Do not withhold good from those who deserve it, when it is in your power to act." Proverbs 3:27 (NIV)

The check in the mail was made out to me in the amount of \$700.00. All the extra work on a project had paid off and I was excited to reward myself.

My mind raced through all the spending possibilities. The thought of putting it in my savings account only lasted two seconds. New clothes kept popping up in my mind along with several other purchases.

It was at that moment I noticed I had also received another letter in the mail, this one from a missionary I supported.

Her note, always full of hope and encouragement, had one sentence that jumped out at me: "We are in need of Bibles for the families and have been praying that if God puts it on your heart, you would give whatever gift you can. Our goal is to raise \$700.00" the letter went on, but I didn't see what else was written. My eyes could only see the amount: \$700.00.

I would like to tell you I knew exactly what to do AND did it immediately. I would like to, but I can't. Oh, I knew alright that God had blessed me with the \$700.00 check and had allowed the request for \$700.00 for Bibles to come in the mail at the same time for a reason. But, sadly, arguments I shared with Him as to why I needed to keep the money for myself began to surface:

"You know my bank account, Lord, and you know it's very very low."

"Someone else will give the \$700.00. In fact, I am sure that several will give money so that the goal will be met. I don't want to deprive them of being blessed."

"I will send a little bit, to do my part, Lord. That should be good enough."

All excuses, all hollow reasoning for what I knew in my heart the Lord was showing me. The missionary was not asking for money to buy herself new clothes. She wasn't even asking for rent or food donations. No, she was asking that we, her supporters, consider sending money for Bibles. God's Word. Truth. Hope. Forgiveness. Jesus.

I turned to Proverbs and read verse 27 of chapter 3. "Do not withhold good from those who deserve it, when it is in your power to act." Deserve it? Of course. We all need to know Jesus. In my power to act? Absolutely.

I deposited the check and wrote one for the same amount to the missionary along with a simple note: "For the Bibles." All the extra work DID pay off . . . for eternity.