

Amazing Grace

During the last sixteen years of ministry in the inner-city of Houston I have been confronted numerous times with the “why bother mentality of the world.” seems that many believe today that there is no hope in dealing with kids in certain areas of the City even from those who live in those same neighborhoods. I remember a man asking me, “Why are you fooling around with all these ghetto kids your just wasting your time aren’t you?” Another saying “Hey mister don’t you know all these kids are going to hell.” And one comment “If there is a God why is this neighborhood like this, the shootings, murders, gangs and violence.” To all three of these responses to our ministry I answer with a question. Why does anything good happen at all anywhere especially in the inner-city?

The three greatest virtues of all are contained in the love chapter in 1 Corinthians 13:13 *“And now abides Faith, Hope, Love these three but the greatest of these is Love.”* You see until the love of God constrains us we can neither have faith or hope. When we started this ministry we had no resources, financial income or even vehicles. The only thing we had was the Spirit of God calling us into the lives of the most desperate children in our City. There were no guarantees of success or people waiting to bail us out of trouble or church support or even any encouragement to speak of just the love of God. We found ourselves being rejected, rocks thrown at our vehicles, fights and even one street riot resulting in the injury of several people. But slowly through prayer and persistence many began to come to the Lord.

This summer we have had the opportunity to see the fruit of this labor. We have one young woman, which is part of our summer intern group, who seven years ago came to our door as a scared thirteen year old heroine addict, had been abused sexually by a friend of her family and who is now praying for people, preaching the Word of God and attending a college in Kansas. There is a young man who once was a struggling teen, whose mom had several children from different men and is now a Secret Service Agent assigned to the White House. As a young boy we trained to love God and take responsibility for others. And a young woman who was trapped in anger and suicidal thoughts who now is the youth leader in her church who only attended two meetings at CAC and was set free by God and there are hundreds of others who share the same life changing testimonies. It is truly amazing! Even when I look back on my own life when an old teacher of mine from years back explained in shock when he heard I was a Pastor, “My God I was sure you would die a drunk or something worse.” From his point of view he was right because that is exactly what I was **but God knew more and could see more in me that which he alone could do. That’s amazing grace.**

Funny as it is our Lord Jesus Christ was the only one who could choose his own place of birth and destiny and he choose to be the son of a little Jewish girl born behind the barn in a little town called Bethlehem in a backwash of the Roman Empire. The son of a carpenter growing up in a way station of a town called Nazareth nothing of any worldly importance, a place of little hope a place when Nathanael heard about Jesus being from commented, *“Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth?”* John 1:46.

Well, can any good come from the inner-city of Houston? Can that which is completely broken be restored? Do inner-city kids have a chance? Yes, for it was God himself who took on the form of servant. And after paying for our sins on the cross he is raised from the dead. Do you really believe in God? Does his love constrain you to hope and believe that nothing is impossible for him?

We do! We’re teaching kids that Jesus Christ loves them and died for them on the cross to set them free from sin and give them a heavenly destiny and a life worth living. That they take personal responsibility for their own actions and stop blaming others. Working with their own hands employing the skills God gave them to make a Godly living. Holding God’s Word first in their lives and to respect all authorities. **We believe when these kids get under God’s Word miracles can happen, lives can change and God’s grace can flourish in the least expected places.**

Is it too late for America? From the natural point of view yes it is. We are a nation on the edge of an all out moral disaster that will fast bring on the judgment of God. We must by all necessity capture the hearts of these young kids and change these young minds. Folks I’ve seen too many miracles, too many changed lives, too many great and marvelous demonstrations of God’s grace. We must press on. This is the promise of God and God who can not lie says in 2 Chronicles 7:14 *“If my people, which are called by my name shall humble themselves and pray, and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways then I will hear from Heaven and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.”*

We believe some of the greatest people that this nation has even seen are living in the slums of America and yet to be born there. Will you stand with us as we hold out the precious Word of Life to them? **A nation’s greatest assets are its children who know and love Jesus Christ.** Pray for us and support this mission. We love you always.
Pastor Scott

ADD US AS A FRIEND ON



“Everything that is done in the world is done by hope.”
~Martin Luther



Summer Success

This year's summer internships and Super Vacation Bible Schools were simply fantastic. Six-hundred kids were ministered to by about 120 different volunteers from Churches and other mission groups from across the nation who were visiting Houston in late June and July. We hope to continue this effort next year and expanding the effort to reach 2000 kids with an increase of volunteers.

As a result of the effort we started a site on facebook called Mission America. On this site you can keep up with pictures, videos and news releases of our recent projects and efforts to reach more kids for the Gospel of Jesus Christ. If you use facebook why not make a friend request with **Mission America (somethin'goodinthehood)**. You will be able to keep up with our projects like our upcoming backpack giveaway. This is a project we need your help with. Our numbers are growing and this year we need to purchase well over 2000 backpacks for kids in fifteen different locations in the City of Houston.

Pray for us as we enter into this fall semester. We will be in planning meetings as you read this newsletter. Pray that God would send us laborers and volunteers to meet this ever growing challenge of sharing his Word with the lost of this City and providing the spiritual needs of hundreds of new kids. Pray that this work be effective in the Spirit and that all of us would be greatly encouraged in the work of the Lord.



Intern Positions Available

If you would like to be trained in one of America's most challenging inner-city ministries then this is the opportunity for you. This is a dynamic way to get street level experience in using the gifts God has given you to reach the lost, the hurting, the homeless and fatherless of America's fourth largest City. We have 5 and 12 month terms available. Housing is provided. If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity, please contact Pastor Scott in our office.

The Children's Activity Center – Children's Activity Truck, part of Walking Faith Ministry, is a non-profit, faith-based organization dedicated to sharing the love of Jesus Christ to children and their families in Houston's crime and poverty ridden inner-city. We use a number of colorful fourteen-foot storage trucks converted into portable stages to bring weekly presentations of the gospel in skits, dramas, puppetry, and video, right to the very doorstep of the children who most desperately need it. Weekly visitations to the homes of attending children helps us share the life changing message of Jesus with the entire family. Donations matter and are tax deductible. Donations can be made through our website via Pay Pal.

Senior Pastor: Scott Binkley Administrative Director: Gilda Duncan

Walking Faith Ministry
5801 Edgemoor Drive Houston, TX 77081
tel: (713) 667-0442 fax: (832) 487-9357
www.sgnh.org

"We believe that every child has the right to hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to see that Gospel demonstrated in the life of at least one, sincere, born-again believer."

The GOOD REPORT

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY CENTER

FROM THE

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