

Let's Play

Our 40' X 40' basketball court is now complete, with outdoor lighting and portable seating. It is wonderful to see kids playing and having a good time when they otherwise could be on the streets getting into trouble and messing with the wrong crowd. For years we have watched as the public park system has become plagued with violence and crime; we desired to have a play place where Jesus is glorified and given respect. That vision has come to pass.

The court is beautiful and will also be used for outdoor classes and various events. Eventually we would like to put a canopy over the top of it. We are in need of two quality portable basketball goals; the investment in these goals is about \$ 1,300.00 per unit. If you are interested in investing in this project, please make a donation and label it "basketball hoops." This is a worthwhile project that will attract a lot of kids and put them under the sound of the Gospel. Let's play for the glory of God!



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 a portable stages to bring weekly presentations of the gospel in skits, dramas, puppetry, and video right to the very doorstep of the children who so most desperately need it. Weekly visitations to the homes of attending children help us to share the life changing message of Jesus with the entire family and help the ministry to identify current needs both spiritual and physical that can be met in a timely fashion.

These Children need your help! We are in a life and death struggle to save them from the horrors of their world but we need Your help. You can **never lose by giving!**

**Remember our Randall's Card #7971
Help us when you buy groceries!!
Also at Kroger's**

Come visit! **YOU ARE WELCOME!**

5801 Edgemoor St.
Houston, TX 77081

(on the corner of Edgemoor & Atwell between Bellaire and Bissonnet)

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WEBSITE: www.childrensactivitycenter.com

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The GOOD REPORT

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FROM THE CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY CENTER

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A Place Called Home

The thing that breaks my heart is the fact that I now realize that a majority of the children that we reach out to in the inner-city have no place in their lives they can call home. Jesus said, "A man's worst enemies will be the members of his own household." This could never be truer than within the communities where we minister in.

You know, it's one thing to see and know that kids are living around people who use drugs, shoot and kill, rob and commit unspeakable acts of violence that are unprovoked and unwarranted. But it is another thing to watch mothers beat their children and call them profane names and curse their lives in public. One has to wonder what goes on in private.

I have personally seen one mother scream profanities at a child until the child wept and begged for mercy only to be punched and dragged into the house. It is very difficult to watch these things. I can't express the helplessness I feel when I watch these things. At times I would like to punch the abusers myself. Sometimes I want to give up and leave and try to forget it ever happened. But God prevails and we pray and keep going.

Recently, one mom cursed her kids out as we tried to invite them to the Center for Saturday Sunday School. They brought Miss Jessica, one of our staff, to their apartment door, to meet their mom and her response, as I recall, was something like, "Who the ### are you talking to? Close the #### door you stupid #### son of a ###!" My thought was that we would not see those kids again. But to our delight and surprise on Saturday morning they were waiting for the bus bright and early.

On the bus ride they were silent and somewhat fearful. But on the way home they were happy and full of life. I've seen God do this miracle again and again; abused kids receiving the love and joy of Jesus Christ that totally transforms theirs and their parents lives.

The following week we visited the house of these same kids. We didn't know what to expect from this mom, seeing the way she had acted before. So we just knocked on the door and trusted God. She answered and before we could say anything she said, "I don't know what you did to my kids but they are respecting me and behaving and doing what they are told. They can go with you every week; I want them there." To me, this was a miracle. The woman and her family moved the

following week without telling us. Many times this happens without warning. So naturally, we were disappointed. But as God would have it, I was driving the bus last Saturday as a car suddenly cut us off in the middle of the road. I quickly slammed on the brakes to avoid a rear-end collision and to our surprise the driver was that same mom. She opened the car door and let her kids pile out of the car and onto the bus. Can you imagine that; kids getting out of a car half-dressed, in the middle of a busy street with horns honking as traffic is being held up for several minutes; to get on a bus with another 70 kids (standing room only), all to go to church? Praise God!

Why do the kids come? How does someone who is hardened in sin suddenly soften and begin to receive from God the things of God? The answer is love. No one in our ministry has all the answers to peoples' lives and we don't pretend to. All we can do is make a place for kids to come, where there isn't someone beating on them or screaming at them. Nothing special; just a place the kids can feel secure, even if it is just for a few hours a week; a place where they are greeted with a hug and a smile from people that really love them and show it by their actions. **Somewhere they can be kids again; a place called 'home.**

I know for some of these kids this will be the only love they will ever know; as, sadly, many of their lives end as tragically as they began. Others will find their way in life with the help of God. But all will come to experience some of God's love because of the generosity of you who support this ministry. Thank God for you and may God bless you.

Pastor Scott

