

Way Out Waco

Most of the time we drive our Children's Activity Trucks to kids in the inner-city because they are too far away for us to bus them to our building, however in October God is going to do something different and open up some new ministry doors.

On Saturday October 6 the City of Waco Housing Authority is going to bus 200 children from the inner-city of Waco to attend the Gospel Lakes Camp in New Waverly near Huntsville. We have been asked to come to the camp and do the Children's Activity Truck for the kids. The City of Waco is excited about what is happening through our ministry with children's lives in Houston and desires that in their kids' lives as well. So, they are bringing them to us here in the Houston area. Then in turn we will be going to Waco in the last week of December to these same children and more to minister to them where they live. This is an exciting first of a kind opportunity for our ministry and we believe God is on the move and will do something very powerful with the Children's Activity Truck in Waco just as he has done in Houston.

Also, in October a group from Toledo, Ohio will be visiting us to learn more about our ministry so they can start it in Toledo. They be with us five days and will be trained in Sidewalk Sunday School. Praise the Lord!



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!!
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Come visit! **YOU ARE WELCOME!**

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“What Can You Say?”

Every day members of our Sidewalk Sunday School staff walk the streets of Houston's inner-city knocking on doors of kids who have come to our meetings the previous week. While we've been knocking on doors for the past ten years we can honestly say that we don't know what to expect with every knock. There have been times when drug dealers have answered the door or half nude women. At times the smell of drugs and marijuana smoke has been so bad that we had to hold our breath. Sometimes there are the sounds of kids getting beaten or cursed or voices whimpering and crying. Most of the time you don't know what to say when they open the door. You try your best to greet them with a warm “Hello, good seeing you is everything okay? It's Pastor Scott with the Children's Activity Truck. Are Terrell and Jasmine here?” Hey look folks, you've got to trust God every time you knock on those doors. He's the only one who knows what's really happening on the other side.

What can you say to a sixteen year old girl who opens the door and grabs on to you and begins to weep and sob uncontrollably for five or ten minutes and later you find out that she is having a baby by a sixty year old man and that her father died and left her in a house all alone with no furniture, food or clothes? It's just her and four bare walls with rats scurrying through the halls. What can you say?

What can you say when a little girl from New Orleans whose family's house was destroyed by Hurricane Katrina who's living in emergency housing in Houston tells you when you knock on her door, “Here Pastor Scott is a toy you gave me when you first picked me up on the bus. I want you to have it to remember me by so you'll think of me when I am gone.” I asked her, “Honey, where are you going?” She replied, “I don't know we are leaving at midnight on a bus to New Orleans.” What she didn't understand is that government funding has run out and the family was forced to go back to perhaps nothing. Driving home that night I knew I would probably never see her again this side of heaven. I was so grateful for being part of her young life for a short time and for having the opportunity to share my faith in Jesus with her. As the sun was setting I struggled to drive my car home through tears and began to sing,

Turn your eyes upon Jesus look full in his wonderful face and the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of his glory and grace. What can you say?

What can you say when a young mother answers the door and breaks down and tells you that she hasn't eaten in three days and doesn't know how she is going to make it another day. She has no job, no family no hope for anything better with three children dependent upon her. What can you say?

In these situations easy answers like Jesus loves you or we will pray and things will get better or just trust in God ring hollow. What if they don't? What if it gets worse? Is this a lack of faith? I think not. Maybe the only thing you can do yourself is cry and give them a hug. Maybe the only thing you can do is just be there and listen. Maybe it's just being available to the hurting and the lost. **You know for kids to believe in a God they can't see they must first see that God working in the lives of people they can see.**

Inner-city ministry is a strange mixture of joy and pain. You see God doing wonderful things in kid's lives. You see the kids smiling and jumping for joy as our trucks pulling into their apartments. You watch as they hang onto every word you are teaching from God's Word. Then you see the things in people's lives that they really don't want you to see but can no longer hold back or hide. These things just spill out whether you're ready or not and you end up experiencing these things with them. Things you would rather not see or hear but you've gone too far. You've crossed the line you've made a choice to love. You've opened yourself to whatever exists in the darkness of peoples' lives. You've left your comfortable and safe life to sacrifice so others can live. You heart gets broken and yet you continue on knowing that Jesus has walked this path. It was he that taught us to walk in the spirit and in truth. All of us who have walked this way will never be the same.

Continue to pray for us that God will send more laborers into the inner-city. It is so exciting to see these kids come to Know Jesus. Every new worker in our ministry gives us the ability to knock on more doors and brings about 100 new kids a month to the outreach ministry. Thank you so much for love and support. Help us reach one more.

Pastor Scott

