

Harvesters of Jesus



(Newsletter 99 – 03/08/2007)

The Association of the Harvesters of Jesus was established in order to provide the regular daily spiritual needs of the Little Eden Society. It is firmly believed that without such support, Little Eden would wither.

“...The Son of Man did not come to be served. He came to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many people.” – Matthew 20:28

Nico is an old, homeless man in my neighbourhood. I met him the other day while stopping by the local supermarket. Years of pain and suffering were engraved on his face. He asked if I would help him to buy a tin of fish so that he could eat something that day... As we spoke I learned that he lives outside in a trench under a bush, with not so much as a blanket to keep him warm at night. His words: “I want to go home to God...it would be better for me”, made me incredibly sad.

This particular incident stayed with me for the next couple of days. Although I longed to take him a warm jacket, socks and blanket, I didn't, because I was afraid. For days after, I kept wondering if I could have done more than I had. However, I started praying for him and others like him and found peace in knowing that God works through us to care for others in need and that opportunities such as these, present themselves every day; knocking at the door, as it were.

During his time on earth, Christ never told people to come back to Him later when they requested His help. Nor did He take long to consider their requests or first needed to discuss it with His disciples. And when the time came for Him to give His life so we could live, He did it without hesitation.

Yes, we live in a country where we sometimes feel overwhelmed by the vast numbers of people and organisations that are asking for help. But this is the example that Jesus set for all his followers and it is also the example you and I are invited to follow. Even the smallest act of kindness can be a mighty demonstration of God's love for all of us: the rich, the poor, the abled and disabled. After all, in His eyes we are all equal. The act of our giving, is not a one sided thing. There is also the receiving; and we are not able to know fully the effect our giving has on the receiver.

There is no one right way to support an organisation or individual, as long as we do reach out. The power of prayer should also never be underestimated.

Where can God use you today?

Hanneli Esterhuysen

Daily prayer for the needs of LITTLE EDEN

Jesus Great Harvester who desires the salvation of all mankind, accept the offering of my life and work in assisting You to help garner the fields for the harvest. Teach me compassion, understanding and love for those most in need. Bless our Association; strengthen the bonds of love and charity amongst us, so that with hearts united we may say "Thy kingdom come". Mary, comfort of the afflicted, pray for us.