

# S E R V E

By the power of the Holy Spirit

In His Name Ministries, Inc. P.O. Box 1208 Bethany, Ok 73008 405/773-0777

Publication 20018

## **Quick Action Helps Client Avoid Eviction**

On a Thursday afternoon when our weekly funds were almost depleted a caller's story touched my heart. I first told her there was no way we could pay \$400, the amount of her rent, but as we talked God moved me to press ahead and be open to possibilities.

She had worked at the same job as a waitress for five years. This month two things happened that decimated her budget.

First the restaurant's business declined, thus her tips were reduced. Then her college age daughter who had just set up housekeeping in her own place with a girlfriend, fell from a ladder and injured her knee. The hospital required \$600 for a specialist before they would treat her daughter. She paid this knowing that she would not have enough for the rent payment.

At church she asked her pastor for help. He declined. Later she explained that she had gone up to him after Sunday services. This is not a good time to lay out one's story of need.

However, I knew him and decided to make contact. After hearing her full story he agreed to pay \$200, but it would take a few days to get the check written. They would send it to us.

A nearby Catholic Church that is known to have a generous outreach ministry was contacted. We often do cooperative work with the St. Vincent de Paul group there.

Our contact, after hearing the story, agreed to send us a check for \$100. So we put in \$100 and were able to write a check for the full amount needed. We hand deliver it by day's end to the apartment house.

We also gave the woman gift certificates to McDonald's. She was thrilled first about the miracle rent payment and then at the opportunity to take her youngsters out to eat on a day which started so bleakly. It is a joy to give hope to those who despair. We thank God for this opportunity to serve in His name and to work cooperatively with other churches.

—Dee Stribling

## **God Got Her Out Of Prison**

When Cindy contacted In His Name, she had just been released after being incarcerated for nine months. Her husband had been imprisoned for "unauthorized use of a computer." --- getting money illegally. Police later charged her with the same crime. "She must have known what he was doing," the police theorized.

But she said she didn't know until after he had gone to jail for the crime. She claims not to have participated.

Her compelling concern in jail was the well being of her four children, one of whom had been born just prior to her incarceration. Her mother cared for the children, which gave Cindy some relief, but then she learned that her mom had suffered a major stroke that paralyzed her and limited her speech.

When I asked her about prayer, Cindy said, she is a praying person: "That's how I got out." She prayed continuously for her children's welfare, and **she credits God alone for her unexpected early release.** "Praying is all that I could do," she said. I had no connections, no money for an attorney.

Her oldest son stayed with her brother. At first she thought this was a good arrangement, but later realized that he was not a suitable guardian for her son after all.

One day she was surprised to learn that she was being sent back to court, not knowing what it was about. To her amazement as she stood before the judge, he told her that she was being released early. She was back with her children later that day.

During the weeks preceding her call to In His Name, the Lord had gone before her to help make arrangements for low rent housing and some other benefits. The last item on her list was \$140 for utility deposits that IHNM guaranteed so she could move into the house.

I Called the Oklahoma City Water Department. The clerk, who answered the phone was very helpful. When I told her how glad I was to be talking with her, she said,

# SERVE

**In His Name Ministries, Inc.**

**P.O. Box 1208**

**Bethany, Ok 73008**

**405/773-0777**

**E-mail**

**dee@inhisname.org**

**Web Site:**

**http://www.inhisname.org**

And  
let us  
not get tired  
of doing what is  
right,  
for after a while  
we will reap a  
harvest of  
blessing  
if we don't get  
discouraged and give up.  
Gal 6:9(TLB)

Return Service Requested

---

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
Paid  
Bethany, OK  
Permit No. 102

---

“Well I am a Christian. I understand and care about these people who are having a hard time.”

When I explained how God had answered Cindy's prayer, the clerk began sobbing. “Something like this might happen to me or to anyone.” This is the first time that a utility office person had shown such emotion. Before I hung up the line, she thanked me heartily for our small part.

I have high hopes that Cindy will do well. She said her time in prison where she prayed without ceasing, had brought her closer to God. She has seen God work strongly in her favor and she expects Him to turn her into a godly woman who will be a good example to her children. We hope to find a volunteer who will be a phone friend to her.

—Dee Stribling

*\* The client's name has been changed*

## ***When You Talk About Helping The Poor***

Most readers of this letter already have a godly view toward suffering neighbors. You are willing to share with another, or send a donation to a ministry such as In His Name.

Talking about “helping the poor,” is not a subject most people want to delve into. In my own experience, when I have the opportunity to tell a new acquaintance about the work of In His Name Ministries, there is usually a polite smile accompanied by an “Oh, that's nice.”

Even when the other person is a Christian, the interest level is not much different. Perhaps you have had the same experiences if you should bring up “helping the poor.”

Looking back at my life before God became real to me, I would have had the same response. If I heard of a person in need, or if I were talking with a person who was experiencing a personal hardship, the most I would have done would be to say how sorry I was.

The one for whom Jesus is real may not immediately change his mind about the poor, but I believe that eventually his or her heart will soften toward needy people. And he will more likely reach into his pocket and help.

Perhaps the root of the problem is that some of God's people do not continue to surrender to Him. They settle for a partial transformation.

Every time one of us talks with another Christian about reaching out to the poor, the Holy Spirit can use this as a wedge to move that person closer to God.

✠

**Your Donations -  
Make In His Name possible..  
Thank You !**

IHNM is honored  
to be associated with a wonderful collection  
of Christians who trust God, and trust us  
to serve in HIS name in their behalf.