

News Story Summary

Last month, a young man in Florida saved the life of his elderly neighbor by breaking into her house with the cast on his arm. Altavious Powell smelled smoke and ran toward the home of Maria Cabral, a 93-year-old woman. Reacting instinctively, Powell broke a window with his cast and a plastic chair. Once inside, he saw the woman in the hallway, took her arm and led her to safety outside. He then went back into the home and put out most of the fire with a garden hose.

The woman was taken to the hospital for smoke inhalation, but she suffered no other injuries.

(For more on this story, search the Internet using the phrase, “man uses cast to rescue elderly woman from fire”)

Focus Attention

To replace the Focus Attention idea, begin by summarizing the story above. Then ask: *What about this story sticks out to you? Do you think the man weighed the possible risks before he decided to help his neighbor? Why or why not?* Point out that this story reminds us of the value of a human life. Then explain that this is the Sunday when Southern Baptists celebrate the sanctity of human life. Challenge the group to consider during today’s study their role in affirming the sanctity of human life.

Challenge

To supplement the respond idea under Summarize and Challenge, conclude by reminding the group of the news story. Emphasize that the lady trapped in the house was in need of an advocate who would take action on her behalf. Challenge the group to look for opportunities to advocate for those who need our help.