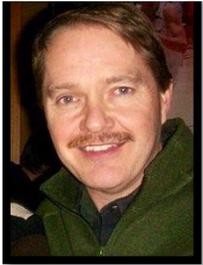




The Samaritan

October, 2019



Jeff Noyed, Director

Out of Ashes - Words of Hope

Two years ago in October my wife Krista and I lost our 24 year-old beloved special daughter Stephanie. So many ministered to us in profound ways with prayers, presence, and special words. All had impact, here are four that were very helpful:

John and Noel Piper wrote the following email (shortened version) to Krista and I:

Noel and I will be praying that the waves of pain in this sorrow will not overwhelm you, but throw you up on the Rock of Ages (as Spurgeon says). And when the firmness of "rock" sounds too bruising for a landing place, may the Lord show you his unsurpassed tenderness.

"He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young." (Isaiah 40:11)
We love you,

My Aunt Marlene who along with my Uncle Jim lost their sunshine-filled daughter Jill to a car accident wrote:

"Your world has suddenly changed. Now it's filled with pain; so many questions and not enough answers to them. We feel your despair - the deep pain of the loss of your precious daughter. Healing comes slowly as you know. We can only get through each hour because of our Lord and know you'll meet again."

Kelli Fredin sent a beautiful postcard of 'Ohi'a lehua tree that is found in Hawaii with these verses from Isaiah 61:3:

"And provide for those who grieve in Zion, to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the LORD for the display of his splendor."



According to Kalena Silva, a University of Hawaii Professor of History, "The 'Ohi'a lehua is the first tree that springs up from a recent lava." For Hawaiian people, according to Silva, the 'Ohi'a lehua is used in reference to people who exhibit resilience, strength and a grace about them.

Kelli and her late husband, Tim, knew what it was like to walk through the loss of a child. They knew what it was like to be bowled over by lava and then slowly and painfully to come out of the ashes - In Isaiah like a Crown of Beauty and in Hawaiian like the 'Ohi'a lehua.

Krista and I were later to join Tim and Kelli's Grief Share group. Grief Share is a 13 session group meeting for those who have experienced the loss of a loved one. It really is the perfect group to be in when you have lost someone because everyone in the group is grieving a loss as well. Further, the topics and homework are Spiritually Insightful and Personally Challenging and significantly helps the healing process to move forward.

A last letter was from my daughter herself written in 2017. Steph was always a very good writer and wrote with deep meaning. To look back on a letter that says she is so happy to call me her dad and role model and that she loves me always brings me a mixture of joy and tears and healing. I will always be Steph's Dad and will always forever love her too.

Dad,
you. I still don't know what I'd do
without you and I am so happy to
call you my dad & role model - from your
hard work ethic to empathetic actions
helping the community - you inspire me to
bring that complex into my work as well.

I love you always, ♡♡♡
Stephane



Artwork by Stephanie Noyed



Pastor John Bohnsack
Development Director

A New Job

Each day as we arrive at the door to Jericho Road Ministries we need to pray for the Lord to be LORD OF THE DAY because we have no idea what needs will be brought to our attention in the hours ahead. We respond to mental, physical, emotional and spiritual needs as we are, by God's grace, able and as resources permit, both by direct aid and by referral. Because of folks like you, we are able to aid folks like Joe.

Joe (not his real name) came to JRM pleading for bus fare to get to a job site. He had been out of work since

he was laid off from his job at a local university because of budget cuts in his department. Joe had worked there for five years and you could tell from the firmness of his handshake grip, he had toiled diligently in his janitorial work. After many months "between jobs," he had gotten a very favorable interview at the airport and was scheduled to go for finger printing and to be issued an employee badge in final preparation for his first day of work. Out of food and out of funds for bus fare, he would have lost the job opportunity if JRM had been unable to help. With a wife and three children to support, *including a 4-year-old with leukemia*, this job which included health benefits was a God sent gift to him and his family.

After verifying the job status and providing food, JRM helped Joe obtain a bus card to cover his transportation needs until his 1st paycheck. There was a visible change as you could see the "weight of the world" lifted off Tom's shoulders when he received the food and the bus card. His expression of thanks to the Lord was clear.

Without the support of your prayers and gifts, JRM would not be able to respond to such crisis needs. Jesus was affirming help for persons in need as He spoke these words recorded in Matt 25, "Truly I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me." **THROUGH JRM -YOU ARE DOING IT! You are making a HUGE DIFFERENCE** in the lives of many. May the Lord bless you one hundred fold.

PLEASE CONTACT US IF YOU
CHANGE ADDRESS, PHONE
AND/OR E-MAIL.

If someone you know is interested in receiving the E-newsletter (same content as the printed mailing), have them send their name and email address to Jericho Road Ministries at the below address or email us at Jeff@jerichoroad.us

**Checks can be made to
Jericho Road Ministries**

**or go to the website to give online at:
Website: www.jerichoroad.us
Tax deductible**



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FROM CRISIS TO CHRIST-CENTERED

HOPE AND RESTORATION