

June 2019

Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to do it.

Proverbs 3:27

Randy, my neighbor, told me to look at the damage to my yard out by the street. We live on a corner lot and I imagined someone had cut their turn too close and tire treads had ripped up the grass. What I saw told a different story as there was a huge hole in the ground next to the stop sign and part of the sidewalk was gone.

The evening before, a strong line of thunderstorms had passed over our neighborhood while we were having dinner on our covered back porch. One particular flash of lightning was followed immediately by a roar of thunder that shook the house. That bolt evidently had struck the sign pole, traveled down to the ground and jumped across to the steel bars in the sidewalk. The force threw sod, rocks and concrete as much as 40 feet away on our yard and across the street on another neighbor's property.

While God's power is easily seen in a lightning strike, it's on display more frequently — and more quietly — in cards, notes and letters of thanks that come to our office daily from those you help through Mission:Dignity. Their words of gratitude won't blast concrete halfway across the yard, but they softly and tenderly have the power to move hearts and hands halfway across the country.

I know you'll enjoy reading Faye Heatherly's letter on the back. She was in ministry alongside her husband Paul for decades and writes to us regularly.

Thanks for sharing generously this month and for exercising your power to be a force for Christ-honoring change in the lives of God's faithful servants in need.

Grace and peace,



John Ambra
Director of Development

To all my wonderful donors from Mission:Dignity at GuideStone,

I want to thank you for your generous contributions to me since 2013. It has made a huge difference in my life. I cannot find words to adequately express the gratitude I feel in my heart every time I go to my mailbox and find my check, and the extra ones at Christmas time, however, I have decided to have direct deposit since I feel it would be better for the administration. There was just something about holding it in my hands as I thanked God for the blessings. This is frivolous, but until recently, the envelope was upside down and it reminded me everything about Mission:Dignity is unusual. It is different and special.

As I am getting older at 83 now, I more often than in earlier years reflect on my life's journey and I am amazed how God has blessed my life and been so faithful to supply my needs every step of this journey. So many times when I thought there was no way, He made a way. I praise His Holy Name and give thanks to Him every day of my life.

I was saved as an eight year old little girl in Vacation Bible School. It was so real then and is still so real today. I can remember so vividly my VBS teacher told us every morning that week about this Man called Jesus and that He loved each one of us and died on a cross for us. My heart was so touched by this love and I wanted to give my heart to that Man called Jesus. I did just that on my knees on that Friday morning as the tears flowed down my face. I even remember I had on a yellow dress and dried my tears on that dress.

My husband was also saved at an early age and served God as a young man. When God joined us together in marriage in 1953, we worked side by side in many church ministries until God called him to preach in 1964 and then called him home to Heaven in 2000. He pastored two churches, the first one for four years and the other one for thirty-three years. They were both small and we never had much money, but it didn't matter because, somehow, God always provided for our needs and the needs of our four children. We were so happy knowing that we were doing what God called us to do and that was to lead people to Jesus and teach them God's ways.

I find it so awesome that people love and appreciate the work of God's ministers so much that they pool their money together and reach out to help ministers and their widows financially and also meet to pray for their needs. As one of those widows, I am deeply touched and I appreciate it with all my heart. Your loving generosity really makes a difference in my life and I will be forever grateful.

I will continue to pray for this special Mission:Dignity ministry.

with a grateful heart,
Faye Heatherly
Faye Heatherly