



Make A Difference

The nights are cool and the days are nice. Apple cider and pumpkins are in our thoughts. Summer clothes are being put away and we are preparing for fall and winter. Pools are closed and the golf season is soon coming to a close. This is the season for gathering, both in the natural and in the spirit. We think of gathering family, friends, and harvest to ourselves and it is a warm feeling. All of that is good, but what about those who don't have a home, or a family, or do not know Jesus loves them. What about our service men and women who are overseas fighting in the war? You see, there are more people to think of than, as the saying goes, "just us four and no more". How can we make a difference? What can we do to change things or to at least be a part of the answer? Do you have tunnel vision where all you can see is what applies to you? What a lonely place that can be. I am asking you to look around you, really take a look around and see how can you help make a difference. Maybe it is just making a donation to a shelter for the homeless or maybe it is helping your church reach out in the community. It is time to get involved, don't you think?

It does not have to be a lot of time but it does take a willingness to be a part. Jesus did not save you, teach you, and fill you with His Spirit intending for you to keep it to yourself. In Mark 16: 15, Jesus told us to go into the all the world and share the gospel. You can make a difference! Not only can you make a difference but you must. Jesus did not ask us, He commissioned us to reach out where we are. It is our world and everywhere our troops are stationed is our world too. Do you know someone that is in Iraq? Maybe a friend, a neighbor, or a co-worker has a family member over there. How can you help? Begin by letting them know that you are praying for them and then do so. Ask if they would like to receive mail from home.

A stranger passed me the other day and turned and looked at me and then smiled.

I smiled back and then realized that it made me feel better. I decided to pass it on to others and soon enough they were responding to my smile. You see, that stranger made a difference. You can too, so do not underestimate yourself. Do it! Make a difference! Let your light shine!

God's blessing to you,
Rev. Barbara A. Thorne

