



BLESS STORIES: SERVE

YOUR “SERVE” STORY NEXT?

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A Valley couple serves the poor by leading Valley’s monthly visit to South Park Inn, arranging for food, toiletries, music and a personal invitation to the Bible study each month. The study gets good attendance each month, and in 25 people became followers of Christ from these gatherings in 2015.

One Valley boy was “serving” one of his friends, a non-churchgoer, by having him over one day. He was just reading his Lego Bible and suddenly his friend simply asked: “Can I go to church with you?”

S invited several co-workers, nearly all non-believers, to her house for a holiday party. Plenty of conversation about faith and Christianity took place, including basic questions from her co-workers!

Hundreds of people at Valley served others by inviting or encouraging them to attend The Gift. Over the weekend, 54 people said “Yes” and told us they became followers of Jesus. We heard stories about 80 people overall becoming Christ-followers.

A Valley attendee is helping a terminally ill woman by helping to clean her house, do laundry and prepare her place for visitors.

A mom of two small kids is hosting 30 people for Thanksgiving – mostly people from her husband’s workplace.

Emily, a high school student, brought “The Gift” invites to school and the principal said she wanted to attend!

A single mom who is the only Christian in her family will host 22 relatives coming from Connecticut and Massachusetts to see The Gift.

T volunteered to help serve at a PTA meeting, hoping it will open up opportunities to talk about faith.

C has a friend with a difficult family issue; she served her friend in a time of need by inviting her to Valley for the first time. She attended!

A Valley attendee placed a small Thanksgiving note and gift in her neighbors’ mailboxes last year; now those neighbors attend regularly and frequently ask “Valley questions!”

By serving as a good neighbor and relaying information about our church, Doug is seeing some of his neighbors come to our church and loving Valley.

Woody served a disabled woman by helping her to get her to church; now the woman’s daughter takes her regularly and they both are experiencing the love of God together.

Valley staff served a man by offering him encouragement and spiritual guidance in a Care and Support Group; he became a Christ-follower. **Kingdom win!**

Chris, by serving in a leader in one of Valley’s groups, helped lead a woman to accept Jesus as her Savior. **Kingdom win!**

The entire Lodovico family was served by the Valley 5K team and Patsy as the family dealt with the one-year anniversary of a death in the family.

Jennifer served a family with a personal invitation and conversation with an entire family about what it’s like to attend our church.

Ruth and friends served an out-of-town friend who is fighting colon cancer by sending gifts and notes of

encouragement, including Bible verses, as she goes through treatment.

Talia and friends served a teacher by singing a worship song in the hallway at school; the teacher plans to come to church to hear them sing in a service!

Jenn and Erin served an acquaintance by specifically doing business with her, opening the door to share the gospel; the woman is not yet a believer but has a positive impression of our church.

M served a friend on his BLESS Focus on Five card by helping him get in and out of his house as he recovers from a serious injury.

John served a homeless man by helping with provisions while also trying to guide him to resources to help with his addictions and long-term outlook.

Tim is serving neighborhood kids by helping out at an Avon High sports program; relationships with their parents opening up as a result.

Valley's Friendship Community made "Bless Jars" as gifts for friends, serving them and showing God's love.

Joyce wanted to serve a health care professional she never met but has been spending a lot of phone time with. She asked if she could pray for her over the phone. When Joyce was done, the woman said: "This is the first time in 25 years that anyone has ever done

anything like this. ... I can't wait to tell my husband. ... You have just made me realize that someone is watching over me. ... I hope you are as blessed as I have just been."

Steve noticed new neighbors moving in, cut some roses from his garden and brought them over in a vase to welcome them. Turns out he is a Christian!