

**SUNDAY, JUNE 27, 2010**

## **Mission Tuesday #68**



Four of my days this week were spent at Mission of Hope. It's a time of transition at the Mission as Phyllis will be leaving within the next month and Pastor Barb will be leaving in the fall. Mission of Hope is in God's hands, and we are trusting Him through this transition.

God used this week to grow me. I love the people who come into the Mission. I truly love them. A year and a half ago, I couldn't say that. But I can now. They have a place in my heart, which I know only God could have done.

My favorite parts of the week were working with the volunteers who came in to help, and also having a few moments (very few I might add) here and there, sitting down with some of the people listening and talking with them.

I heard from one who is currently homeless how he found shelter at the bottom of an evergreen tree during a strong thunderstorm. He was left with the clothing on his back being soaked, and red welts on his arms from the pine needles on the ground. We were able to give him clean clothes and a place to stay...he's now staying at the Mission of Hope Shelter. :)

I heard from another who is new to Mission of Hope last week, his story of his wife leaving him, and taking almost everything they had with her. He has been left with not much of anything. He's trying to get back on his feet again. We were able to help him get a bag of food to get him started. :)

I heard from another man of his struggles with depression, feelings of self-worth, and

feelings of loneliness. I'm a little worried about him, as I haven't seen him since that day...Wednesday. I'm praying he's ok.

One man asked me the question I wasn't ready for...He asked, "So what did you do before getting this gig? (Meaning working at the Mission.) Were you a social worker somewhere or something?" I explained that I have worked out of my home as a Mary Kay sales director since our daughter was born sixteen years ago, and that I have been with the Mission for years behind the scenes, but never in this role before. I tried to share the best I could that when God calls someone, He equips them to do what He's called them to do. That's what God has done for me, and I love what I do at the Mission. After my explanation, he looked at me a little confused, then changed the subject. :) (I know, sometimes stuff like this doesn't make sense unless you're the one being called.)

I was able to work with so many wonderful volunteers this week! We couldn't have made it through the day very well without them. Each day we really need 3-4 volunteers to help out with different things. The days we were short on help were the days we struggled meeting the needs of the patrons. We did it each day, but some days were a bigger struggle than others, based on the help we had. I think it was life-changing for each volunteer who helped, giving hope out to those who need it. If you're close in location to the Mission, would you consider coming in to volunteer? We really need YOU!

What a blessing Mission of Hope is to so many...to the least, the last and the lost, and to those who come in to help. Again, I am thankful I get to be a part of it all!