

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2009**

**Mission Tuesday #33 Part 2**



Walking into the Mission after seeing the two women walking down the alley, searching dumpsters, I was fired up to make a difference in people's lives today. I prayed as I walked into the building, "Lord, help me be a blessing to others today."

I helped get the food that was already prepared for lunch today into roasters to warm them. I did as much as I could before I had to leave for my daughter's ceremony at school. After returning from the ceremony (which was wonderful), one of the Mission patrons came up to me and said, "Do you remember me telling you my mom was in the hospital?" I said yes. He continued, "Well she died on Sunday." He fought back the tears. I told him how sorry I was, and that I understood his pain. I told him that I would be available to talk if he wanted to/needed to, and that many others at the Mission would do the same. My heart hurt from feeling his pain.

I was in the kitchen for the majority of the time today, but when I would go to another part of the Mission, I focused on speaking to everyone, and I wanted to call each one by his or her name. People love to hear the sound of their own name! It was nice to see so many smile after I would say hello to them.

Other volunteers and I worked on lunch, and it came together pretty well...and even early today! The Mission could not survive without its much needed and appreciated volunteers! We served 108 people lunch. My brother, Pat, joined me for lunch today. It was a nice change of pace to sit down and enjoy a meal with just him. We haven't done that in a very long time. He really made my day! :-)

After saying goodbye to him, we cleaned up the kitchen and before I knew it, it was time for me to leave. I helped a man who needed a coat before I left...I realized we have a decent coat supply upstairs in the Clothes Closet, but we'll go through those quickly. As winter approaches, and the need for coats grows, we'll need more!

As I walked out the back door to leave, my friend who I have mentioned a few times in previous posts, was standing outside with her fiance. She gave me the biggest hug! Receiving her hug was the best way to end my day at Mission of Hope today.

I can't get the two women from this morning out of my mind tonight. Where are they? Are they ok? Did they eat today? Are they warm tonight? God loves those two women just as much as He loves me. He cares about them just as much as He cares about me. I'm very thankful that Mission of Hope exists to help people who are needy, lonely, homeless, poor, sick, cold, hungry, sad, rejected...the list goes on. It's an honor for me to be a part of such a ministry. I am praying for those women and all who are struggling in life tonight...may God provide everything they need, and may they feel His love this very moment!