

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2009**

**Mission Tuesday #27, Wednesday & Friday**



This week was a great week for me...I was able to help at Mission of Hope three days this week...my normal Tuesday, and also Wednesday afternoon and Friday all day!

There was so much that happened each day at the Mission...I wish I could write it all, but if I did, this post would be way too long! :-)

This week a couple things really stood out to me from my time there...

1) Mission of Hope could not function properly without the many wonderful volunteers who give of their time and talents each day! At one point on Wednesday, I had looked around and realized that each person there was doing their part in helping the Mission run smoothly...I noticed a volunteer washing dishes, another was signing people in for the Food Pantry, another one was restocking the Food Pantry, another one was helping people get a food bag from the Pantry, another one was vacuuming, another one was wiping down tables, and other one was helping a man with clothing from the Clothes Closet. I was so thankful...otherwise it would just be the few staff people having to do it all and that would be nearly impossible!

2) The Mission is just as important to the volunteers as it is to the Mission patrons. Yes, Mission of Hope provides so many things to so many people...food, clothing, meals, friends, shelter, and many other ways of assistance. But it became very real to me how Mission of Hope provides a place for people to give back, to help others, to serve God, to learn how to work with others, to feel good about what they are doing, and to feel a

sense of purpose and accomplishment. Personally, God has taught me from my time there each week so many things about working with others. I have been able to use the things I have learned in other areas of my life!

Each day we had new people who wanted to come in and volunteer their time. What a blessing! One woman I talked to was very interested helping in any way she could. She said that she feels good when she can help and give to other people. I was able to share with her the many things we do at the Mission, and what services we provide. She was very excited to get started and was looking forward to doing so next week. Another woman Phyllis and I talked to during lunch had just stopped in because of a friend who is also a volunteer told her about Mission of Hope. She is unemployed right now, and wants to do something productive with her extra time as she continues to look for work. She is also excited to come back and volunteer on Tuesday, and I am looking forward to working with her!

THANK YOU to all the many volunteers at Mission of Hope! My intention this coming week is to thank them personally for what they do. I know Phyllis and the Mission of Hope staff is very good about doing that, but I don't think anyone can be thanked too much for helping others, especially at the Mission. What a gift each one is to this ministry! Thank you, thank you!

I also wanted to share on Friday I woke up sleep deprived and feeling a little weary. I knew I had a full day at Mission of Hope ahead of me, and to be honest, I was looking VERY forward to it. I caught myself thinking, "I NEED to be at Mission of Hope today for ME!" Being there does something for me that I can't explain. I love it and I look forward to the next time I'm there...I guess that's going to be tonight, because we (my family and I) are going to the Saturday night Worship Service there at 6:30...I better get going! :-)