



## Servant's Corner

September 2011

### **Do You Have To Be Asked To Help?**

By Rich Henderson, Love INC Director

*But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8*

Picture this. An elderly woman is walking towards her car in a parking lot. She has a case of bottled water in her shopping cart that is too heavy for her to lift into the trunk of her car. Seeing an able-bodied man walking towards her she asks, "Excuse me sir, could you put this case of water in the trunk for me?" Without hesitation, the man answers "no" and walks past the woman.

This really happened! Our Love INC Clearinghouse Coordinator, Jeevan Benjamin, (who stopped to help the woman) witnessed this exchange in a Costco parking lot. It takes a lot of gall to turn down such a simple request. The man's rudeness and lack of civility shocks us and makes us rightfully angry. Before you get too self-righteous, here's a convicting question, "Do you have to be asked before you're willing to help someone?" The verse above says that God took the initiative and met our need before we asked for help. Do we imitate Him by taking the initiative to help others?

The story above shocks us because the man refused to help when asked. The man could have shocked the elderly woman in a positive way by offering to help lift her water without being asked. How about us? Do we stand by, hoping we won't be asked to help, or do we take the initiative when we see a need and offer to help? Taking the initiative to meet the needs of those around us is one way we can "adorn the doctrine of God" (Titus 2:10). Our Christian faith becomes more attractive when it is accompanied by practical acts of service. Could the fact that you become aware of a person's need be a prompting from the Holy Spirit to help?



## Servant's Corner

September 2011

### **Do You Have To Be Asked To Help?**

By Rich Henderson, Love INC Director

*But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8*

Picture this. An elderly woman is walking towards her car in a parking lot. She has a case of bottled water in her shopping cart that is too heavy for her to lift into the trunk of her car. Seeing an able-bodied man walking towards her she asks, "Excuse me sir, could you put this case of water in the trunk for me?" Without hesitation, the man answers "no" and walks past the woman.

This really happened! Our Love INC Clearinghouse Coordinator, Jeevan Benjamin, (who stopped to help the woman) witnessed this exchange in a Costco parking lot. It takes a lot of gall to turn down such a simple request. The man's rudeness and lack of civility shocks us and makes us rightfully angry. Before you get too self-righteous, here's a convicting question, "Do you have to be asked before you're willing to help someone?" The verse above says that God took the initiative and met our need before we asked for help. Do we imitate Him by taking the initiative to help others?

The story above shocks us because the man refused to help when asked. The man could have shocked the elderly woman in a positive way by offering to help lift her water without being asked. How about us? Do we stand by, hoping we won't be asked to help, or do we take the initiative when we see a need and offer to help? Taking the initiative to meet the needs of those around us is one way we can "adorn the doctrine of God" (Titus 2:10). Our Christian faith becomes more attractive when it is accompanied by practical acts of service. Could the fact that you become aware of a person's need be a prompting from the Holy Spirit to help?