



Hand of Help

M I N I S T R I E S

January 15, 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Although love was never included as one of the wonders of the world, I used to think it should be. The more I thought about it, however, the more I realized that love deserved its own classification, because although the lighthouse of Alexandria or the hanging gardens of Babylon are no more, love remains, refreshed with every generation, a new iteration building off the old.

As I consider the times we are currently living in and go back to the Word to find understanding and direction, I am reminded that one of the hallmarks of the last days would be that the love of many would grow cold.

Love is such an essential ingredient in the believer's life that its dampening and extinguishing in men's hearts is repeatedly mentioned, even by Christ Jesus Himself. Although He could have focused on a myriad of other things that would be harbingers of the last days, He chose to focus on love and warn those who would read His words throughout time that love would be in short supply as this world hurdled toward judgment.

Thankfully, Jesus said that the love of many would grow cold, and not the love of all. For as long as we are here, there will always be those who love. The bonds of love will continue to bind us together as we work to live out the gospel and further the kingdom of God.

We were never promised an easy walk. We were never promised a walk without perils, setbacks, and hardships, but knowing that you are there, keeping your love stoked, and walking alongside us makes all the difference in the world.

In an uncertain world, where it seems we are one breath away from chaos, it is good to remind ourselves that the God we serve is both omnipotent and omniscient. He can do all things, and knows all things, and will keep us as only He is able. We enter this new year not with fear or trepidation, but with peace and hope not because of who we are, but because of who He is.

One of the high honors of my life is sitting down at the beginning of every year and penning this letter to you to let you know that you are appreciated and loved and that what you do does make a difference in the lives of those long forgotten by everyone else. Thank you for not letting your love grow cold.

With love in Christ,

Michael Boldea, Jr.



Child Sponsorship Program

Naomi

Her smile is one of the many joys
we get to experience daily in our
Hand of Help family.

The story of Naomi, Lorenzo and their younger sister Emanuela, is one we have sadly heard too many times before.

The children were found by the local authorities alone, neglected, and having no one to take care of them properly. After their parents' divorce, the mother was granted sole custody of her children and for a while, they continued living in their family home. However, when she decided to leave the country and start work abroad, the children were left alone, with no adult to take care of them.

Months had gone by, and the children started missing school and were in danger of getting involved in various entourages with no one to offer them supervision or advice.

When we first saw Naomi, we could see on her face the traces of former and present hardships as well as a high level of maturity, obtained unfortunately the hard way. Naomi had many times been both mother and father to her younger siblings.

When we first welcomed them into our family, she kept her distance and displayed a questioning nature. However, in just a few months, we could notice a visible change. She met children coming from even worse circumstances and environments. Someone to talk to and seek to find counsel from was always available; she started getting involved in our activities at Hand of Help and she soon found better friends to spend her free time with.

Naomi had to work hard to recuperate all the time she missed in school and shortly after, teachers noticed her desire to study and her improved test results. During her darkest hours, she started looking to God and realized that He is the only One able to bring comfort, solace and fulfillment.

How precious is the love of our Lord manifested in His children! Naomi plays the guitar and spends many hours reading. Her desire is to be admitted to Medical School and be able to be with her siblings all the time, keeping the family together.

We are grateful for the chance that He has given us to sow His Word in the hearts of these children. Thank you for continuing to make testimonies like these possible. May He bless you abundantly for working while it is still day unto the least of these!