

Welcome to Week 5 of The 2018 Lenten Positive Acts Challenge!

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"People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel"

- Maya Angelou

Dear Bill,

Welcome to the 5th week of Lent... and the 5th week of the Lenten Positive Acts Challenge!

We're so glad you decided to take this Lenten Journey with us!
These 47 days could improve the rest of your year.

If you haven't visited the website recently, please do so every now and then. You can even visit on your phone or tablet.

There are now 1,473 people performing Lenten Positive Acts in 31 Countries, and in 46 States of the U.S.!!

Such a diverse group of people and locations...all with something powerful in common: *The desire to praise God...help people...and make the world a little bit better.* All at the same time!

If you've completed your recommended number of daily Lenten Positive Acts, you have at least 68 so far. As a group, we've performed over **99,000!**

Starting today - Monday, March 12th, we perform 5 Positive Acts per day.

If you need some help with ideas for Positive Acts, please visit "[I Need Ideas](#)".

If you'd like additional help in identifying opportunities for Positive Acts, or if you have any questions, please send us an email at info@LentenPositiveActs.com - we'll be happy to help you.

Please visit the "[Track My Positive Acts](#)" page - to download a chart for tracking your Positive Acts. You can print it, or use it on your computer or phone.

Thanks for the comments you've been giving us. We appreciate your thoughts, and love to hear how The Challenge is going for you.

If you have comments, please let us know - post them on the website, or send them to info@LentenPositiveActs.com

Let's see if you can guess today's topic.

It's something that everyone has, yet no two people use it the same way. And the way you use it can change your life, as well as the lives of others.

It's one of the most valuable commodities in the world, yet no amount of money can buy more of it.

At the same time - it doesn't cost anything, yet it's one of the most valuable gifts you can give someone.

Did you guess it?

It's "*Time*".

We live in such a busy, hectic world. Many of us spend our days going from one task to another. Adults run from taking care of kids...to work...to chores...to sleep. Children go from school...to sports and activities...to homework...to sleep. We barely have time to meet our daily schedules, let alone do anything for ourselves.

So, when others need our time - it's not really there to give.

At the same time, people yearn for attention. From a crying baby...to a toddler acting up...to a child left out at school...to an adult who feels cut off from the world...to a homeless person ignored on the street...to a senior citizen sitting alone day after day in a nursing home. And everyone in between.

Sometimes, it doesn't take much to brighten someone's day...to change their outlook...or to give them hope.

Phil chats with homeless people on the street during his commute...

Deacon Marty visits and prays with people in the hospital...

Laura uses her drive to work as an opportunity to call a friend or family member she hasn't spoken with in a while...

And you may remember Matthew (from a previous Challenge) – who chats with the gas station attendants. While they fill his gas tank...he learns their stories.

All of the Challengers mentioned above share similar experiences. What seems so small to them (a few minutes of their time), turns out to be a *valuable* gift to the other people.

And they all feel that the experience means *at least* as much to them...as it does to the other person.

In New Jersey, USA, John C's daughter had to complete a service project for school...and he decided to complete it with her. So, they visit a local Nursing home each Sunday - and help the residents get from their rooms...to Mass in the Chapel...and back to their rooms after Mass. The residents love it...the administration appreciates the help...and John and his daughter have developed special relationships with some new friends.

Here's the thing. John and his daughter completed the "required school project" a few years ago! However, their experience had such a positive impact on them - that they didn't stop. They continue to help their new friends get to Mass every Sunday. God Bless them!

Meanwhile, halfway around the globe...

Don Ritchie lives across the street from Australia's most notorious suicide spot. For almost 50 years, he's been watching for people who are standing alone too close to the edge of the cliff. When he spots someone, he hurries to them. Sometimes, it's too late. However, many times it's not...and he invites them (with a smile) to come to his house for a cup of tea.

Although he doesn't keep count, the official tally estimates that Don has saved 160 people!! In his own words "You gotta try and save them. It's pretty simple".
Wow! What a way to Glorify The Lord with your life!

While these types of positive acts may not be for everyone...the thought *behind* them *is*. By realizing the true value of *sharing our time*...and looking for opportunities to give that gift to others...we have the potential to change lives. Both the lives of others...and our own.

Today's Question:

Q. What if I'm unable to get out of the house during the day, and I'm having trouble keeping up with the daily quota of positive acts?

A. That's a great question, and we hear similar questions often – especially as we get in to the later weeks of The Challenge. If you visit the "[I need ideas](#)" page on our website, there are some good ideas for positive acts that can be performed in that situation. Two that we recommend are phone calls and prayers:

1. Call someone, who you haven't spoken with recently, someone going through a tough time, going for a medical test/procedure, etc
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2. Visit the ["I need a prayer"](#) page on our website – and say some prayers for the requests listed there. A prayer is a *powerful* positive act, and it can be performed by anyone... anywhere... at any time.
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Today's Challenge:

When you're faced with a situation where you have a choice of:

- a. stopping what you're doing - to spend a few minutes visiting...talking to...or helping someone...though not being able to check as many things off your "to do" list, or
- b. continuing with the hectic pace of your day...and being able to check off more items on that "to do" list...

Choose "A".

Try it as part of your Lenten Journey...and see where it takes you.

You never know what it will mean to them, and how it could help them...and help you.

Today's Song:

When you get a chance, listen to the song "Save My Life" - by Sidewalk Prophets, which contains the lyrics:

***"Tell me what I need to hear
Tell me that I'm not forgotten
Show me there's a God***

***Who can be more than all I've ever wanted
'Cause right now I need a little hope
I need to know that I'm not alone
Maybe God is calling you tonight
To tell me something
That could save my life"***

Think about that. That's what some of you are doing now.

In looking for opportunities for Positive Acts, you're taking more time to listen to others...notice more about them...and see them as more than what they appear to be. In doing so, you may do or say something that could have a profoundly positive impact on their life...and you may never know.

Please keep this in mind as you look for opportunities for Positive Acts this week. :)

***"Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and He will reward them for
what they have done" - Proverbs 19:17***

Until next time...

Have a Blessed Week!

God Bless You!

Sincerely,

Lenten Positive Acts

www.LentenPositiveActs.com



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You are receiving this mail because you opted in to participate in the 2016 Lenten Positive Acts Challenge.

We're so glad you joined us!

Our mailing address is:

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