



The magnificence of His purpose, the simplicity of the plan

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With over 25 years in Teen Challenge worldwide, Bernie and Cathy are part of the international partnership of Global Teen Challenge sharing their powerful message of hope
Freedom through dependence on Christ!

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They shall call His name Jesus, for He shall save His people from their sins - Matt 1:21

Dealing with homeless people can be a real challenge. Meeting people like the homeless man from Argentina (pictured below) are a constant part of our ministry all around the world as we reach out with GTC. When I see them I am always challenged. What do I do? How to react? What would Jesus do?



A solitary innkeeper faced that same decision over 2,000 years ago. The whole world remembers him as the terrible

person who left the Son of God to be born in a barn. But you know, he may not have been such a bad guy.

Business was good, the hotel was packed, everything was full of promise. Now as he paused to enjoy the bounty of these blessings, his quiet solitude was jarred by the pounding of a young pregnant couple at the door. No time, no rooms, don't bother me. Grudgingly, he answers the door and the rest is history.

So why do we disparage the innkeeper? He did not ignore them, he just didn't give his best.

Why? Was it greed? Was it rebellion? Or was it just carelessness?

He left the greatest opportunity of his life standing at the door. He did not turn them away, he relegated them to the back of

the property.

Before I judge him too harshly, I must ask myself, "How many times have I done the same thing?" This night could have changed his life. I'm not convinced that he *ignored* the opportunity, the truth is— he didn't even *see* it.

How many times has God sent *opportunity* to knock and I did not answer? I did not see that the magnificence of His purpose is revealed in the simplicity of daily acts of obedience, kindness and prayer.

During this Holiday season I am grateful on behalf of the thousands *you have touched by standing with us* through this year. Let us not get so busy during Christmas to miss the knock of opportunity to share **His** love in simple ways again

We completed our 12th trip to the British Isles in October. The "Faith and Freedom" Tour covered Scotland, England and Wales. It was an exciting time of music and ministry. In addition, we helped start a new choir in London and had wonderful times of staff training and street ministry with the Teen Challenge and the outreach busses there.



With the London outreach bus, we fed the homeless & ministered to spiritual needs.



Whitechapel, where William Booth birthed the Salvation Army