CHRISTMAS 2024

The ARM/ Agape PULSE

www.adamsrescuemission.org

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

A Servant's Heart

It is seven more construction paper rings from Christmas, she reminds herself as she walks out the door taking her three children to the bus stop that morning. The kids are whining, slowing her down. See, she has been late to work twice this month trying to balance home duties and providing for her two sons and daughter. Her boss has given her a warning that he will have to replace her if it happens again.

Her husband left the young family a couple of years before and life has been hard. A tiny house in disrepair, a minimum wage job at the local newspaper and bills piled up prioritized by shutoff dates. Debbie is only twenty-four and life offers no hope that she can cling to. What weighs on her most is the ever-pressing threat of losing her children, whether it be from domestic relations or her ex-husband. Every day she wants to break into a million pieces, give up and let go of life itself.

At night when Debbie enters her children's room for prayers she wonders, when will God intervene and change things, when will he have mercy on them, when will he show up? She wonders if the things her ex-husband said about her were true and maybe that's why God is punishing her little family. Maybe it's instinct, maybe it's seeing them sleeping quietly and safely but Debbie finds the ability and strength to make it through one more day.

Christmas morning comes around, the kids are with their father this year, she has never felt this alone in her life. As she makes a cup of tea, Debbie stares aimlessly through tears into the bright orange teepee style fireplace. Watching the flames lick the air, she asks Jesus to take her home, take her to heaven. She cannot handle the pain and what she perceives as her failure any longer. By this point she is on her knees crying out with the last pieces of her heart shattering on the floor.

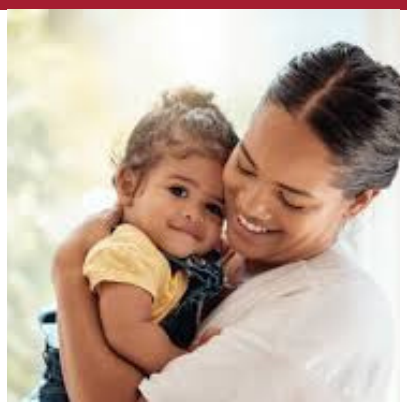
When she was at her last, God showed up. He made sweet promises to her. He said her children would be fine and each of them would know who He was and help His people. He said she would meet an amazing man and become the love of his life. Debbie was told she mattered and was loved, and she was giving her children a foundation that would guide their lives. She was told that God was proud of her.

All those things came to be, and she even had two more children with the love of her life. As for the kids, the two boys became Marines, one became a pastor who fights to provide opportunity for those less fortunate, the other is a business leader devoted to creating equal opportunities for women in the workplace. Debbie's daughter became a nurse who provides end of life care as well as testing for first responders who have been exposed to blood born pathogens.

Debbie passed away from cancer in her forty-second year. Her entire family surrounded her as she preached the Good News, that we have a God who adores us. Through her prayers and determination, she changed the trajectory of her little family's lives, never once letting go of the expectation she had for God's promises.

Through this example of faith, we at ARM/Agape serve our community in partnership with you. It is my hope that we can all say "I have fought the good fight".

2 Timothy 4:7-8 **"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. And now there is waiting for me the victory prize of being put right with God."**



A HUGE THANK YOU TO THE INDIVIDUALS WHO SHOW UP TO SUPPORT WHAT WE DO FOR OUR COMMUNITY. EACH WEEK WE HAVE THOSE WHO DRIVE OUR TRUCKS, HELP IN OUR SORTING ROOM, LENDING A HELPING HAND WITH PICK-UPS, CLEANING, LEADING BIBLE STUDIES, AND MUCH MORE.

WANDA GALLIMORE
MIKE FLAHERTY
RUSS STEWART
SUSAN CZECK
LINDA HAGEE
LEX MCMILLAN

RUTH BLINN
JULIET SHARROW
DAVE MYERS
RICHARD HAGEE
DARLENE MILLER
GINA PIPER

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GIFTS TO SUPPORT THIS MINISTRY!

ARM is so grateful for your support this year! In 2024 we were able to provide 73 men, 16 women, and 15 children a safe place for them to sleep, eat, and start their restoration process. In 2024 we were able to serve over 27,000 meals to our resident guests. Over 150 families from the community have received clothing, household goods, and furniture through our voucher program. Over 250 children will receive gifts for Christmas through our Adopt a Family Program.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS!

Your donations allow us to provide aid to those in our community who need it most. Thank you for giving generously!

Please use the enclosed envelope, or go online to www.adamsrescuemission.org to make an end-of-year gift to the Adams Rescue Mission.

Thank you for supporting us. We look forward to seeing you in the New Year!