

How You Can Help Many People

Have you ever thought about what your tombstone might say? I know for most of us that is the last thing we want to think about. I am not saying your end is near but think about it. What will be said of you after you are gone? How will you be remembered?

With that in mind let me share with you a rather obscure verse about a woman in the New Testament named Phoebe. It comes from Romans 16:1-2 and it says, "I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a servant of the church in Cenchrea. I ask you to receive her in the Lord in a way worthy of the saints and to give her any help she may need from you, **for she has been a great help to many people, including me**"

Now there is a great epitaph! For the rest of eternity that woman will be remembered as one who was a great help to many people. We don't know what that means. Did she give money, provide lodging or food or all of that? Whatever she did the Apostle Paul said she had helped many people, including him! Her serving character brought her to the attention of Paul and through the book of Romans to you and I. That is how she is forever remembered.

Through simple acts of kindness you and I can be remembered. As we take up the offering I want you to know that your gifts are a help to many people. A portion of what you give goes to...

- Name a mission or missionary that your church or denomination supports.
- List various ministries your church does for the community,
- Share about how you impact children and students through their giving.

I could go on and on. So, you might not think your life counts but it does. You might not think your gift is any big deal but it is. All our gifts combined accomplish much. When you give you are being a great help to many. As Christians shouldn't that be one of our goals in life?

Phoebe wasn't remembered for what job she held. She wasn't remembered for her wealth, her home, her wardrobe or any earthly thing. She was remembered for being a great help to many. Let's imitate that in our lives starting with today's offering.