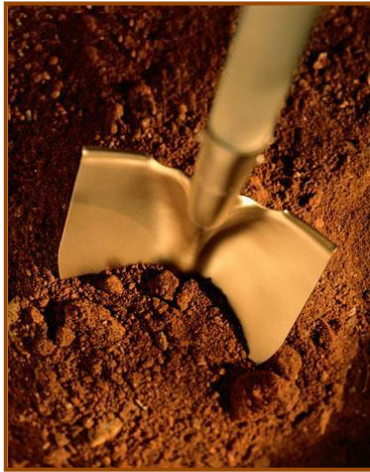


A Brother in the Hole

A large hole had been dug as part of the excavation of a construction site. A number of workers were in the hole removing dirt when the walls collapsed around them.

Rescuers began running in from everywhere, but the foreman stood by and watched the scene with detachment.



Suddenly, a woman called out from the construction office trailer: “Jim, your brother is in the hole!”

Instantly, the foreman ran to the collapsed hole, stripped off his coat, and began digging for dear life.

Why? Because his brother was in mortal danger, and he had to get him out.

Our neighbor is anyone in danger, in need, in pain or in trouble. We bear a responsibility to help. And in helping, we obey Jesus’ command to love.

When Jesus was confronted by opposition, a lawyer stepped forward and, seeking to test Him, asked our Lord a question: “Teacher, what is the great commandment in the law?”

Jesus responded: “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets” (Matthew 22:36-40 NKJV).

The essence of Christianity, then, is love: loving God and loving people. You can’t have one without the other. A vertical dimension and a horizontal dimension must both be present.

One of the ways a believer demonstrates his love for God is by loving others. It is in loving – God and people – that we identify and mark ourselves as Christians.

And for those of us in Life Care, Century Park and Life Care at Home, we have opportunities every day to show our love both ways.

– Beecher Hunter