

A Godly Touch

The value of a handshake, a hug or a pat on the back cannot be overstated in human relationships. Our business is people – serving residents, working with associates, comforting families – and the compassion we have is often communicated by these simple gestures.

As most of you know, Max Lucado, author and minister of the Oak Hills Church in San Antonio, Texas, is one of my favorite writers. In his book, *Grace for the Moment*, he talks about the importance of the touch:

Oh, the power of a godly touch. Haven't you known it? The doctor who treated you, or the teacher who dried your tears? Was there a hand holding yours at a funeral? Another on your shoulder during a trial? A handshake of welcome at a new job?

Can't we offer the same?

Many of you already do. Some of you have the master touch of the Physician Himself. You use your hands to pray over the sick and minister to the weak. If you aren't touching them personally, your hands are writing letters, dialing phones, baking pies. You have learned the power of a touch.

But others of us tend to forget. Our hearts are good; it's just that our memories are bad. We forget how significant one touch can be.

Aren't we glad Jesus didn't make the same mistake?

Those words ring true. It's as if they were written specifically for the associates in Life Care, Century Park and Life Care at Home.

Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man and said, "I will. Be healed!"
(Matthew 8:3)

--Beecher Hunter