

Making Good on a Promise

When Rosina Hernandez was in college, she attended a rock concert at which one young man was brutally beaten by another. No one made an attempt to stop the beating.

The next day, she was dumbfounded to learn that the youth who was attacked had died as a result of the pounding. Yet neither she nor anyone else had raised a hand to help him. She never forgot the incident or her responsibility as an inactive bystander.

Some years later, Rosina saw another catastrophe. A car driving in the rain ahead of her suddenly skidded and plunged into Biscayne Bay. The car landed head down in the water with only the tail-end showing. In a moment, a woman appeared on the surface, shouting for help and saying her husband was stuck inside the car.

This time, Rosina waited for no one. She plunged into the water, tried unsuccessfully to open the car door, and then pounded on the back window as other bystanders stood on the causeway and watched. First, she screamed at them, begging for help, then cursed them, telling them there was a man dying in the car.

One man, then another, finally came to help. Together, they broke the safety glass and dragged the man out. They were just in time – a few minutes later, and it would have been too late.

The woman thanked Rosina and the others for saving her husband, and Rosina was elated, riding an emotional high that lasted for weeks. She had promised herself that she would never again fail to do anything she could to save a human life. She had made good on her promise.

While the work in health care and hospitality services is not easy, saving and bettering human life brings its own sense of elation. One develops an inner peace and satisfaction through work that blesses others.

Whoever brings blessing will be enriched, and one who waters will himself be watered (Proverbs 11:25 ESV).

– Beecher Hunter