

'Will Work for Food'

Jack Canfield and Mark Victor Hansen tell the story in *A 3rd Serving of Chicken Soup for the Soul*.

A man once saw another man carrying a backpack and a well-worn sign, "I will work for food."

Although he didn't usually respond to such pleas, this time he did. He invited the sign carrier to have lunch with him, and in the course of their conversation, he discovered that the man was not homeless, but on a mission.

He had seen rough times early in his life, and had made some wrong choices and paid the consequences, but 14 years earlier, while backpacking across the nation, he had given his life to God.

Ever since, he had felt God calling him to "work to buy food and Bibles, and I give them out when His Spirit leads." He had read the Bible through 14 times as he traveled.

His backpack was filled with Bibles, but when the businessman asked him if he could use one more, he readily accepted the gift.

In parting, he asked his benefactor, "When you see something that makes you think of me, will you pray for me?" The businessman replied, "You bet."

That evening as the businessman left his office, the wind blowing strong, he found the missionary's well-worn brown work gloves neatly laid over the handle of his car. They sit on his desk today, reminding him to pray.



The missionary had an unusual calling, to be sure.

But for each one of us, the Lord has a unique ministry designed to fit the unique qualities He has built into us.

It is inspiring to me to see how the people of Life Care and Century Park have found their ministry in service to others.

God never asks about our ability – just our availability.

I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, "Here am I; send me" (Isaiah 6:8 KJV).

– Beecher Hunter