

Favor



God's Favor

Favor

"For the wages of sin [is] death; but the act of favour of God, eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 6:23, Darby).

Several years ago, a church in Lake of the Ozarks mapped out a strategy to engage in random acts of kindness. It was awesome to participate. For several days, we walked the blistering hot asphalt pavement with window cleaner and paper towels; we waved drivers into several service stations where we filled up tanks, washed windows, vacuumed carpets, and shared Jesus.

Kids wanted to leap from the automobiles to join in and help us. Many moms and dads were so impressed to see college and high school graduates randomly engage in acts of kindness. One mother said, "I have never seen anything like this in my life. Are you guys real? Where are you from?"

This question opened the door for one of the college students to share the gospel. Jamie said, "I am from Kansas City, Kansas. However, if you would allow me, I would like to tell you where I'm going."

The mother said, "Are you going to one of the universities in

the area, or are you going to a university or college in Kansas? Is that what you mean?"

Jamie said, "No. I'm not talking about school. I'm talking about my eternal home."

"What do you mean? What's an eternal home?"

Jamie responded by presenting the gospel message. Of course, God prepared this mom's heart to hear the words. But I think showing her kindness and favor opened her ears to listen, as well.

On that day standing on an acid hot asphalt pavement, this mother received Jesus Christ as her Savior. The Bible says, "For the wages of sin is death." That's the bad news, but the good news is this. "But the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 6:23).

We didn't realize that what we would produce was immediate favor. Only God knows the eternal implication of one solitary random act of kindness.

"Eternal life is not a peculiar feeling inside! It is not your ultimate destination, to which you will go when you are dead. If you are born again, eternal life is that quality of life that you possess right now."

—Major Ian Thomas

Today's prayer...

Heavenly Father, I have Your favor. I know that I do. I have witnessed Your hand at work in my life. I have seen You do great and mighty things in my life, and I know that it is You. I love You, dear Lord. And I want to be more and more like You each and every day. Help me pass your favor on to those around me—both friends and strangers—in word and in actions. This is Your servant's prayer. Amen!