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August 2019: Your Love Can Make A Difference

I would like to share an article with you that Eric Butterworth wrote several years ago.

It was titled, "Bringing out the Best in Others." He wrote that more than a quarter-century ago, a college professor had his sociology class go into the worst slum area of Baltimore and get case studies of 200 young boys. When the students returned, the professor asked them to write at the bottom of each case history what they thought his chance of success in life would be. Without exception, the students wrote, "he hasn't got a chance!"

Twenty years later another sociology professor came across the study and decided to follow it up. He told his students about the questionnaires and asked them to find out what happened to the 200 boys. They went to work on the project and located 180 of the boys. The students learned that 176 of the remaining 180 had achieved more than ordinary success as doctors, lawyers, businessmen and so on.

The professor was astounded. What had caused this unexpected result? He decided to get in touch with each of these men and ask them, "What do you account your success to?" Each one replied, "There was a teacher." The professor decided to see if he could locate this teacher to find out what magic formula she used to pull these boys out of the slums and into success.

Fortunately, the elderly teacher was still alive and alert. The professor asked her what was her secret or magic formula she used to bring these young boys out of the slums into success. Her eyes sparkled and her lips broke into a gentle smile. "It's simple, I just loved those boys."

Where there was no chance, love found a way. You may read this and think, "I wish I could help make a difference in someone's life." Or maybe you are the person who feels that all the odds are against you. A teacher might think, there are so many influence in a young person's life and I am only one teacher. The Baltimore teacher wasn't thinking about odds. In fact she probably wasn't even aware of sociological problems. She just loved her students!

Without a doubt the world needs love like a parched desert needs water. Everyone can make a positive contribution to the peace of the whole world by following what Jesus said, "Love one another and do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

Love is a powerful force. As we become aware of the creative force of love we can help create an atmosphere of love that can be felt in our office, home, church, school or anywhere we choose. You can make a difference in your world.

In closing, here is a quote from Pitirim Sorokin, the late founder of the Center for Creative Altruism at Harvard University. "Someday, perhaps soon, mankind will learn what individuals have always know: that love is the only true creative force in the world."

From the Heart with Love, Peace & Blessings,
Reverend Elizabeth