

Being Tired Without Being Weary

The woman came in having lost everything, with only the clothes on her back. The disaster that had befallen her had left her demoralized and losing hope. As she asked for help at the end of our work day, she was afraid she already knew the answer. "You don't have any clothes, do you?"

Many have come through the doors refusing things that could help. They say they don't want to take more than they need or leave others to do without. They are worried far more about their kids than their own personal needs. They have often said, "Save it for someone else, there are others worse off than me."

Over the days in Taylorville, there have been many stories to tell. The things that people have seen and endured will touch you in ways few other things can. Seeing a mother cry when you hand her a winter hat for her child. Hearing a grandfather start to lose his closely controlled emotions as he asks for help for his grandchildren. Receiving a hug from a stranger because you have given them something to eat and drink.

The time and need take its toll on everyone. Whether worker or homeowner, friend or family member, everyone gets tired. Everyone gets to the point where they wish they could just leave it behind for a while and let someone else do it.

But as difficult, time-consuming, and tiring as it is, we must remember that our endeavors in Taylorville are having a lasting impact. As I write this, someone came in this morning to get food who had been in a few days ago for cleaning supplies for his house. The first words he said to me were, "Thank you so much for being here, I've heard nothing but good things about the work you are doing."

We need to remember Paul's words when he wrote, "And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith." (Galatians 6:9-10).

It's okay to be tired, there are many people fitting that description right now. But let us never grow weary of doing good. It will always bear fruit eventually. ~~ *Adam Cozort*