

December 11, 2021

## Bridging the Gap

### [1 Peter 2:5-9](#)

*“But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.” 1 Peter 2:9*

Joyce was the new secretary in the Nursing School Office. She was a single parent struggling to raise her children. While I didn't have direct contact with her, we would exchange greetings in the hall. Just one year earlier, I was the new employee, and wondered why the Lord had called me to take a position an 1½-hour drive from home. I knew God would reveal the answers in His time, so I began the daily commute, which would last for three years.

It was Joyce who would give me the answer. One day about two weeks after our initial meeting, Joyce stopped me in the hall and said, “You walk with the Lord don't you?” I looked at her rather dumbfounded. I said, “What do you mean?” She replied, “I mean you have a strong faith in your God, and He is with you.” I said, “Why, yes I do, very much so, but what makes you say that?”

She answered, “Because it's evident in what you do and say. You just have a glow.”

I wasn't sure whether I should be ecstatic or frightened. The light came on suddenly. I was here to share my love of Christ through my actions. I thanked her and went on my way.

A few days later Joyce stopped by again and shared a very heartbreaking and tragic story of her married life, divorce, child abuse, and one child on drugs. She needed a shoulder to lean on for a while.

She was finding her way back to the Lord, and he invited me to help her. What a privilege it is to help someone on their faith journey. We established a friendship. We talked and prayed about where she was in her faith, and what she could do to live out that faith.

God calls forth persons in each generation—people like you and me—who will stand in the gap with Christ, who will bridge the separation between people and God, where the grace of Christ needs to be made real. When we are united with Christ as members of the Body, we join in His priestly work of reconciling God and His children.

***Prayer:** Heavenly Father, help me open my hand and my heart when I encounter the needs of others. Encourage me, Lord, to open my life to those who need a taste of your love and bounty. In Jesus' name, Amen.*

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