

Positively Speaking

By Mark Wilson

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Love is in the Lifting

Shortly after the devastating earthquake in Haiti, Dr. JoAnne Lyon, General Superintendent of the Wesleyan Church, related the following story.

An orphanage near the epicenter, that housed 131 children, was flattened. Rescue workers found 130 children, but there was one little girl still missing. They searched through the night, and finally found her the next morning, trapped in a tiny little space with barely enough room to breath. After they dug her from the rubble, they asked, "Charity, what did you do while you were stuck there all those hours?"

To this, she replied, "I sang 'Love lifted me. Love lifted me. When nothing else could help, love lifted me.'"

That is exactly what happened. The loving hands of God's people reached out and lifted that precious little girl.

Love is willing to lift the load. It goes the extra mile. If we say we love, but are not willing to lift, we're just posers.

A guy boasted on his Facebook status, "I have over a thousand friends!" To this, someone commented, "And how many of them would help you move a piano?" It's the heavy hefting that proves true friendship. Love is in the lifting.

"We are put on earth a little space, that we may bear the beams of love." said poet William Blake. Love calls us to roll up our sleeves and get our hands dirty.

"Carry one another's burdens," the Bible says, "and you will fulfill the law of Christ." (Galatians 6:2)

"Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and with truth." (1 John 3:18)

Love lifts – but there's an amazing twist to it- -the more you love, the lighter the load. The burden doesn't seem nearly so heavy when the lifting is a labor of love.

It's like the 1960's English rock group, the Hollies sang, "He ain't heavy, he's my brother!"

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