

Mikerline Laurent

PMN101: Introduction to Spiritual Formation

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Community Service Paper

For me, one of the simplest ways to show people love is when I dedicate my time for a cause that I feel passionate about, which is to help those in need. It is very important to help people and give back to others who are less fortunate. We can not consider community service as just two simple words, it is more than that. Community service helps us value our life while giving us an opportunity to make a difference in another person's life. The money we spend without expecting anything in return, when helping others, is the best part of doing something out of the kindness of your heart without expecting a great reward. We do what the bible recommends us to do, which is, to love our neighbor ; it also gives us the opportunity to meet and work with different people in your community, like a church.

On March 8 our church members decided to offer their help of serving in the food pantry to our local community to those in need. There was a large number of men, women and children, about 300 people were in need. We gave them resources that would help and enable these people to bounce back and get on their feet. We provided a variety of supplies like soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, clothing, and food. In the video provided we were packing bags of food including rice, beans, sugar, oil, and a nice warm plate of cooked spaghetti. Being a volunteer for the church community taught me to be more compassionate and I've gained a better understanding of others. During the trip we visited 10 shelters and 2 churches as a means to provide as much

help as possible. Throughout my experience, I have been fortunate enough to see first hand how people suffered from simple needs that we often take for granted.

This trip made me more grateful for what I have and I am more satisfied with my life. There are times in our lives where we often want our needs to be met by any means necessary and forget to reflect on those that don't have. While some people are looking to buy the most expensive shoes or clothes there are kids all around the world that don't know when they will have their next meal. Life is a gift that many of us take for granted and can be taken from us in the blink of an eye. While we are still living we should aspire to impact and help as many people as possible and put our wants to the side. Money can't buy happiness but it can change the life of someone less fortunate.