



## Be Somebody Devotion

Recently, during the children's message at our church, a grandmother walking with a cane took two rambunctious preschoolers to the front to listen. She had her hands full, to say the least. Even though she was able to hang onto the two-year-old, the three-year-old broke loose and scampered around as little boys are wont to do. He made it to the pulpit parament and gave it a tug. The pastor quickly straightened it again, but no one deterred the youngster as he continued his exploration.

I, along with many others, I'm sure, was sitting in church thinking, "Why doesn't somebody do something to help?" Obviously, this lady had her hands full and could have used some assistance. I wasn't sitting close to the front nor did I know the little guy and his family well. Surely, somebody else would be more capable of helping her than I. But then it hit me. I **was somebody**. I couldn't just sit here and think "somebody should do something," while I just sat and watched.

So I brushed past my husband who was sitting on the aisle and walked to the front and sat in the first pew, behind the little guy, and scooped him into my lap. I talked to him softly and he stilled to listen to what the pastor had to say. When the sermon was finished, he took my hand and, as we walked back to where the family was sitting together, he smiled up at me all the way.

I must say, I was still disappointed that no one else made a move to assist in this situation. I didn't want anyone congratulating me for what I did, because I was still scolding them in my mind for not offering to help. When several did say something to me after church, I could only respond, "Well somebody had to do something." I must admit that was probably not the most Christian thing I could say. A more appropriate response would probably have been to point to God and declare it was all for His glory. But I really wasn't feeling that way.

Why don't we jump to help when we have the time, resources, or money to do so? I know going up there during the children's message was a risk. What if the little guy freaked out and screamed at this relative stranger putting him on her lap? I could not even tell you his name. But when God is tugging at your heart to act, you can't just sit there thinking "somebody should do something." We must be the **somebody** that God wants to send.

In Matthew 25:35-40, Jesus emphasizes the importance of extending ourselves to each other when we see a need – in instances such as hunger, thirst, being a stranger, naked, sick, or being in prison. Are we responding to the needs of our fellow human beings? He chastised those who did not seem to notice the needs in their midst by telling them "*Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me*" (Matthew 25:40 ESV). Look to be that **somebody** so others can see Jesus in you.

**Prayer:** Dear Lord, make us aware of the opportunities to serve that are in front of us every day. Make us brave to act and gracious to serve in all that You present for us to do. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Be Somebody

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