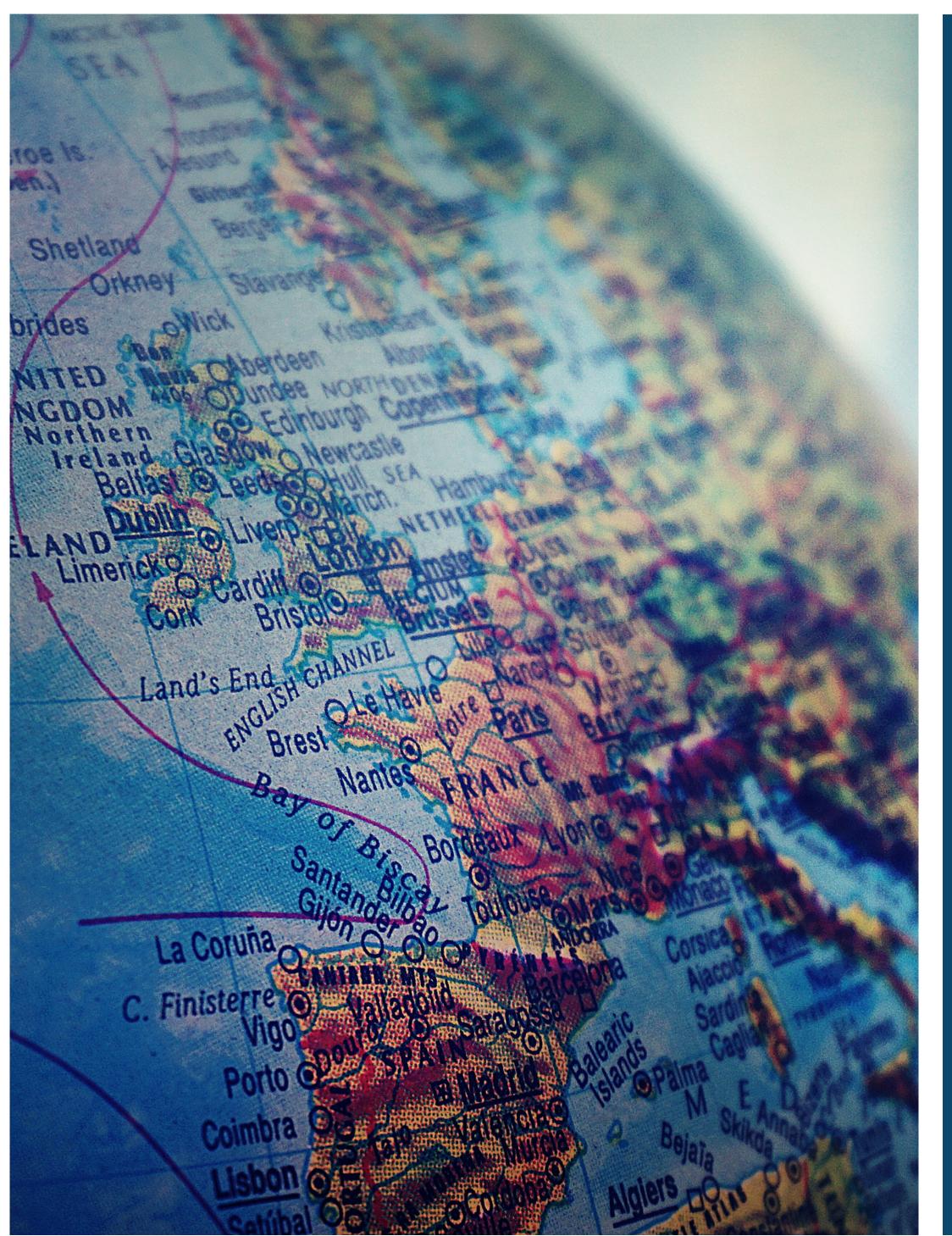
### Planned Acts of Christian Kindness Workbook



Presented by Acts 1:8 Ministry



"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will by my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." -Acts 1:8

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### **Our Christian Calling**

#### **God calls Christians to share our faith and His love.**

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will by my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." - Acts 1:8

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." - Matthew 28:19-20

#### Why don't more Christians share their faith?

A Lifeway Research study conducted in 2022 revealed that 8 out of 10 Americans who identify as Christians say that their Christian faith impacts every aspect of their everyday life. However only 40% of those Americans who identify as Christians had a conversation about faith with a stranger who was not a Christian in the past 6 months.

So why aren't more Christians sharing their faith? Based upon our conversations with Christians, the top three reasons they do not evangelize are:

- "I am busy."
- "I have fear and insecurity."
- "I don't have enough training."

#### Keep reading to find out how to...

incorporate evangelism into your busy schedule

take the fear and insecurity out of evangelism



### Planned Acts of Christian Kindness (P.A.C.K.)

#### **Our Evangelism Method**

At Acts 1:8 Ministry, we make evangelizing easy, non-threatening, and fun for any Christian. Our evangelism method is Planned Acts of Christian Kindness® (P.A.C.K.®).

Planned Acts of Christian Kindness is when you care for someone by providing a free service or giving a free gift, share God's love with that person, and connect them to a local church or Christian group through the Christian Kindness Card.



P.A.C.K. opens the door to evangelize by simply explaining that God's love is free just like the gift or service that you freely gave! P.A.C.K. is for all Christians, from brand new to mature, and can be easily integrated into your daily walk and customized to fit your needs and the needs of your community. P.A.C.K. can be used by individuals or by groups such as youth groups, businesses, bible studies, and outreach teams.

#### **Benefits of Planned Acts of Christian Kindness**

- It's an easy evangelism method, and does not need to require a ton of time or resources.
- P.A.C.K. takes the fear and insecurity out of evangelism as it is a very simple and easy process!
- P.A.C.K. trains you how to care for people in your community, share God's love, and connect them to a local church.
- Strengthens and deepens your own faith.
- Giving brings you joy and a sense of fulfillment.
- Spreads God's love in a simple and non-threatening way.
- Helps you to create a culture where sharing God's love is a normal and natural part of the routine.
- P.A.C.K. is a great way to begin or strengthen your church's evangelism program.

"The greatest blessings that I have seen from P,A.C.K. are the "God moments". These God moments happen when people unselfishly take just a little time to show and share the love of Jesus. These moments often happen in busy public places where the vast majority of the people look like you and me. The free gift or helpful service makes it easy to grab the attention of passersby, but it is the power of the Holy Spirit that changes everything.

Recently we did a local P.A.C.K. event and gave away \$2 bills and small American flags along with our Christian Kindness Cards. We held the P.A.C.K. event at a local gas station, because we knew they would be really busy with Labor Day travelers. We weren't disappointed! As usual, our free gifts were well received with most taking a little break from their hectic holiday preparations to receive them. We had a number of great conversations, but one stood out to me in particular. A man in his 40's was walking back to his car and stopped briefly to talk with someone from a distance. I really thought that he would briskly walk away from me by the time I would get close enough to him. To my surprise I was able to garner his attention as I asked him if he had received his free \$2 bill and American flag. He stared blankly at me for a moment, but I was able to explain that Jesus sent us share His love with others through these \$2 bills and flags. The man thanked me and said that about a year ago he needed to go on disability. He told me that he used to collect new bundles of \$2 bills through his bank, but now that is all gone and he struggles to make his disability checks stretch. At that moment, a woman walked up and they both explained to me that they had just reconnected moments earlier after being good friends over 20 years ago. He also shared that today was the anniversary of losing the love of his life to suicide 16 years ago. They were both carrying some heavy burdens and even though neither were actively attending church they asked if I would pray for them, so the three of us wrapped arms around one another and prayed. I extended an open invitation for them to come to my church.

Through the Holy Spirit's power, P.A.C.K. brings people together. Time and time again, I hear stories where a P.A.C.K. partner meet a recipient they least expect within such precise timing. P.A.C.K. helps open the hearts of the recipients and often time they end up pouring out their hearts, leaving everyone with no doubt of God's divine presence! This is how P.A.C.K. builds faith and sows seeds to grow God's kingdom at the same time."

-Lee, Ministry Coordinator at Acts 1:8 Ministry

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# P.A.C.K. for Individuals

#### P.A.C.K. Ideas

Planned Acts of Christian Kindness (P.A.C.K.) is when you do something special for someone else to share God's free gift of love for us. P.A.C.K. can be spontaneous or easily planned out into your daily walk. The following P.A.C.K. ideas can be performed anonymously, but as Christians we believe every blessing comes from God, so please give Him all the honor and glory by incorporating the Christian Kindness Card with each P.A.C.K. encounter.

- Put a quarter in a meter that's about to expire.
- Leave a copy of a great book in a cafe for someone else to enjoy.
- Tip your restaurant server generously.
- Buy or pack a meal for a homeless person.
- Give a warm coat to a homeless person.
- Complete a project that align with your skill set for someone else (example: home repair project).
- Send a box of donuts, bagels, or muffins to a construction site.
- When you leave a foreign country, give the remaining currency to someone who can use it.
- When you're at the airport, offer to pull the luggage of someone that can use the help.
- Put a tip in a street musician's jar.
- Tip a cab driver generously.
- Visit a hospice and spend time with an ill patient.
- Volunteer at a women's shelter.
- Spend time with a senior citizen who is living alone.
- Give up your seat on a crowded bus, train, or ferry.
- Offer to babysit for a single mother.
- Offer delivery person something to drink, or leave bottled water and snacks on your front porch for them.

- Bake cookies or brownies for a neighbor.
- Clean up litter in a park or neighborhood.
- Buying the train or bus ticket for the person behind you.
- Buy a stranger a cup of coffee or tea.
- Give a helping hand when you see someone carrying a lot of stuff or loading their car.
- Have blankets and ponchos ready in your trunk to give to someone in need.
- Put change in a vending machine.
- Pay for a toll for the person behind you.
- Leave extra stamps at the stamp machine at the Post Office.
- Bring a treat to work to share with your coworkers.
- Rake someone's leaves.
- Bring some goodies to the fire station.
- Mow someone's lawn.
- Deliver stuffed animals to your local police or fire station for traumatized children, or to a nursing home.
- Give someone a free newspaper.
- Give a small bag of sidewalk salt to your neighbors.
- Put together a simple personal hygiene kit and give to person in need.
- Create "blessing bags" and keep them in your car to giveaway when you meet a person in need (include items such as bottled water, nutritious and non-perishable snacks, and hygiene items).
- Sit and talk with a homeless person.
- Buy a pair of shoes for someone in need.
- Buy a hat, gloves, or scarf for someone in need.
- Buy house warming gifts for new neighbors.
- Give an umbrella to a stranger on a rainy day.
- Pay for the person in line behind you at a drive thru restaurant.
- Create a care package and send it to a student or an active duty military person.
- Carry fast food gift certificates and give them to people in need.
- Give prepaid gas cards to people in need.
- Return a shopping cart for someone.
- Shovel snow from someone's front walk.
- Bring hot tea or soup to someone who is sick.

### Brainstorm some of your own P.A.C.K. ideas below!



"I thank God for P.A.C.K. After going through the workbook, I told my wife to prepare rice and potatoes for about 20 adult meals. We took it to the nearest posho mill within our village. We distributed the food to those who had lined up waiting for flour. We told them to receive the love of Jesus Christ. They were amazed and we've been able to touch lives. Three people gave their lives to Christ. It's amazing. Glory to Jesus." -Jackson, Kenya Africa

# P.A.C.K. for Individuals

#### **Christian Kindness Cards**

The Christian Kindness Card is a key tool because it provides simple and non-threatening opportunities to share God's love. The Christian Kindndess Card leaves the recipient with a reminder of your interaction and God's love for them.

Christian Kindness Cards are meant to break the ice with the recipient and eliminate the fear associated with evangelism. For the recipient, the Christian Kindness Card creates a "God just showed up in my life" moment and allows them to reflect on the experience later. The card can be left behind if you don't see the recipient of your Christian Kindness or you can personally hand it to the recipient.

Below is an example of one of our free downloadable Christian Kindness Cards. **Download yours for free at** www.acts18.org/christian-kindness-cards.



Tip: Keep a few Christian Kindness Cards in your wallet or purse for spontaneous outreach opportunities!

#### **Conversation Starters**

Sometimes Christian Kindness is fast-paced. Other Christian Kindness is slow and relaxed, which gives you

more of an opportunity to evangelize on a one-on-one basis.

Here are some examples of conversation starters that you can use:

- "I want to bless you because I have been blessed by God."
- "This is an act of Christian Kindness because God loves you!"
- "I want to share God's love with you today."
- "God's love is free just like this gift is free."

#### What are some conversation starters that you are comfortable with?



Tip: Remember to ask and allow God to guide your conversations.

#### **Consistency & Frequency**

God's timing is perfect. We encourage you to be patient and be on the lookout because the Holy Spirit can and will show up in many different ways. This is God's way of keeping the journey both interesting and rewarding.

Doing Christian Kindness consistently and frequently helps strengthen your faith because God reveals Himself through the people you encounter, situations you are put through, and the incredible timing of it all.

Keep reading to learn how you can do Christian Kindness with a group, such as an outreach team, business, youth group, or bible study!

#### **Building Your Team**

Planned Acts of Christian Kindness can be customized for any group, including but not limited to outreach teams, businesses, youth groups, and bible studies. The following section is a step-by-step guide that teaches you how to effectively do P.A.C.K. with your group!

#### P.A.C.K. Leader

- Having more than one leader is important so that there is shared responsibility and accountability.
- P.A.C.K. leaders should be good communicators, have a passion for the Lord, and have organizational or event planning skills.
- The P.A.C.K. leaders should hare this workbook with the team, so they know and understand the process.

#### P.A.C.K. Team

- The more people that are involved increases the level of excitement, and the creation of new and creative P.A.C.K. event ideas.
- As your P.A.C.K. events grow, extra volunteers may be needed. To get them excited about the outreach, show them pictures from previous events or perform a short skit portraying a past P.A.C.K. event or interaction.

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"We gave out bottled water in our town square. The next day, a homeless man showed up at our church and wanted to know what it was all about. He woke up next to a water bottle labeled with a Bible verse. We gave him a sack of food, as he hadn't eaten in a couple of days. This taught us that we never know how one Christian Kindness will touch someone else." -Janet & Bill, Florida

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### Make a list of people (and their contact information) that would be good P.A.C.K. team members.



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"I have started P.A.C.K. in my community by supplying orphans with gifts like school materials such as books, pens, antibiotic soaps, and sweets. We follow this with a lesson about how God loves all people, which is important in a culture where orphans and vulnerable children are often looked down upon." -Bernard, Tanzania Africa

#### P.A.C.K. Ideas

Doing P.A.C.K. as a group should be planned out and tailored to the fit the needs of your community. Below are ideas for your group, but please feel free to develop and implement your own P,A.C.K. ideas too.

#### Seasonal P.A.C.K. Ideas

- January: shovel driveways and sidewalks
- February / Valentine's Day: carnation or rose giveaway
- March / Daylight Savings: smoke alarm battery giveaway
- Easter: bread loaf giveaway (and an invitation to attend your Easter service/Mass)
- April / Tax Day: postage stamp giveaway at your local Post Office on April 15
- May / Memorial Day / Mother's Day: candy, donut, or coffee giveaway; American flag giveaway for Memorial Day and rose giveaway for Mother's Day
- June / Father's Day: free church picnic and invite the community; free car washes for Father's Day
- July / Independence Day: hand out treats and glowsticks at your local parade
- August: back-to-school giveaway (backpacks filled with essential school supplies)
- September / Labor Day: giveaway water bottles at high-traffic gas station in your community
- October: rake leaves in yards
- November / Thanksgiving: food distribution to needy families in your community
- **December / Christmas**: free gift wrapping service at a local department store; hot chocolate giveaway at your local parade

#### Automobile P.A.C.K. Ideas

- Free car wash
- Free windshield washing
- Free oil changes
- Free washer fluid fills
- Free tire pressure checks
- Free interior vacuuming and window cleaning
- Free windshield ice scraping
- Free windshield washing
- Buy down gas to bargain price

#### **College Campus P.A.C.K. Ideas**

- Trash pick-up
- Bike tune-up station
- School supply giveaway
- Free tutoring services
- Soda, Gatorade, or lemonade giveaway on movein day or at intramural athletic events
- Free dorm room cleaning services
- Coffee and tea giveaway for students studying

#### International P.A.C.K. Ideas

We have received many P.A.C.K. ideas from our overseas ministry partners. These are a few popular P.A.C.K. ideas that can be done anywhere and will have a long-lasting impact.

- School supply giveaway before the school year begins (specifically backpacks, pens, pencils, rulers, and school books)
- Clothing and shoes giveaway (brand new or lightly used)
- Bible giveaway to people who cannot afford them (be sure that the Bible is written in their native language)
- Host a movie night by projecting a Christian movie onto a screen on a Saturday night
- Water and food giveaway
- Volunteer to help people with whatever tasks they need to complete at their farm or homestead

- late at night
- Send care packages to students

#### **Outdoor P.A.C.K. Ideas**

- Feed expired parking meters
- Giveaway soft drinks, candy, or snacks at a local parade
- Mow lawns, do yard work, clean rain gutters, rake leaves, salt sidewalks, or shovel snow for someone in need
- Do home maintenance or repairs for someone in need
- Pick up trash and post a couple "Kindness in Progress" signs around your group as your work

#### **Business P.A.C.K. Ideas**

- Purchase meals for people in the food court
- Leave quarters in vending machine coin returns
- Giveaway gift cards for a local coffee shop
- Pay for people to launder and dry their clothes at a local laundromat

#### **Brainstorm some of your own P.A.C.K. ideas below!**



#### Funding

Depending upon the details of your P.A.C.K. events, you may need to raise funds. Here are a few ideas on how to raise funds:

- Ask people in your church and/or community for products, supplies, gift cards, or monetary gifts.
- Coin drop (loose change in offering plates at your church).
- Incorporate P.A.C.K. events into your church evangelism budget.
- If you are a Thrivent Financial member, ask how Thrivent Action Teams can help you fund P.A.C.K. events to do more with the gifts God gave you!

#### **Locations**

Choosing a location for your P.A.C.K. event is important!

- If you are doing a P.A.C.K. event as a church group, choose a location near your church for ease of reference.
- Ask people from your church or community to host your P.A.C.K. event.
- If you are giving away products that were bought at a local store, choosing that store as the event location is ideal (example: gas station gift card giveaway at that gas station location).

#### Who do you know that owns or manages a local business?



#### **Reaching Your Community**

P.A.C.K. events are meant to share God's love with others. God shows up at these events and works in mysterious, miraculous, and awe-inspiring ways.

P.A.C.K. events are more spontaneous when they are not promoted because there is an element of surprise for the recipients. However, a P.A.C.K. event that has a goal of raising awareness, such as a free church picnic, should be promoted.

Below are a few easy ways to promote your P.A.C.K. event:

- Write up a short article or press release outlining the details of your P.A.C.K. event and send it to local media (newspapers, radio stations, television stations).
- Many radio and television stations have community event calendars on their websites. Post your P.A.C.K. event details on the community calendars two weeks prior to your event.



#### **Christian Kindness Cards**

The Christian Kindness Card is a key tool because it provides simple and non-threatening opportunities to share God's love. The Christian Kindndess Card leaves the recipient with a reminder of your interaction and God's love for them.

Christian Kindness Cards are meant to break the ice with the recipient and eliminate the fear associated with evangelism. For the recipient, the Christian Kindness Card creates a "God just showed up in my life" moment and allows them to reflect on the experience later. The card can be left behind if you don't see the recipient of your Christian Kindness or you can personally hand it to the recipient.

Below is an example of one of our free downloadable Christian Kindness Cards. The back side of this card can be customized with your church information to ensure that the recipients are connected to your church.

#### Download yours for free at www.acts18.org/christian-kindness-cards.

Front side:

Back side:

This Christian Kindness is a reflection of what Jesus freely gave to us all. His words, actions, and the ultimate sacrifice He made on the cross was for our salvation and freedom.

#ChristianKindness



Tip: Keep a few Christian Kindness Cards in your wallet or purse for spontaneous outreach opportunities!

#### **Conversation Starters**

Sometimes P.A.C.K. events are fast-paced. Sometimes they are slow and relaxed, which gives you more of an opportunity to evangelize on a one-on-one basis. We have found that it is helpful to "practice" P.A.C.K. with your group. Take turns role-playing the giver and recipient and act out different scenarios.

Here are some examples of conversation starters that you can use:

- "I want to bless you because I have been blessed by God."
- "This is an act of Christian Kindness because God loves you!"
- "I want to share God's love with you today."
- "God's love is free just like this gift is free."

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"Hundreds of teenagers go by our church every Friday and Saturday night. We decided to make trail mix, put it in sandwich-size bags and walk up and down the street, handing it out. We put a little sticker on the bag of trail mix that said, 'You're on the right trail with Jesus! - A gift from Freedom Baptist Church." -Chad, Kentucky

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#### What are some conversation starters that you are comfortable with?



Tip: Start your P.A.C.K. event with a group prayer. Ask and allow God to guide your conversations.

#### **Consistency & Frequency**

God's timing is perfect. We encourage you to be patient and be on the lookout because the Holy Spirit can and will show up in many different ways. This is God's way of keeping the journey both interesting and rewarding.

Doing Christian Kindness consistently and frequently helps strengthen your faith because God reveals Himself through the people you encounter, situations you are experience, and the incredible timing of it all.

Christian Kindness develops a culture of caring, sharing, and connecting people to Christ within your church and community.

We have found that when Planned Acts of Christian Kindness events are done frequently (particularly by a church group), more future evangelism efforts occur (examples: local and overseas mission trips, Habitat for Humanity projects, and disaster response trips).

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"My two sons were serving our country overseas, my arm was in a sling from a dislocated shoulder and I was thinking about all the work I had to do around the house as I watched the leaves pile up outside. I started to work around the house doing as much as I could with my one good arm. It could not have been an hour later, and something caught my eye out the window. A group of boys were raking the leaves! After they had neatly raked them to the front curb, one of them knocked on my door. He explained to me that they raked my yard to show me Christian Kindness. The boys handed me a card, which included a Bible verse. They turned to be on their way, I shut the door and instantly fell to my knees! I have always been a believer, but I never felt the presence of God so strongly until then. I rededicated my life to Him that day. Christian Kindness truly changed my life!" -Carol, Wisconsin

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# **Additional Resources**

#### **Christian Kindness Cards**

Whether you're doing Planned Acts of Christian Kindness as an individual or with a group, remember to download your free Christian Kindness Cards at **www.acts18.org/christian-kindness-cards**. The Christian Kindness Cards are an essential part because they provide an easy way to share God's love and a tangible memory for the recipient.

#### **Personalized Support**

Acts 1:8 Ministry is here to help you through your P.A.C.K. journey. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us!



#### **Presentations**

Acts 1:8 Ministry's Bible-based presentations will challenge and motivate you as you learn how to share your faith through Planned Acts of Christian Kindness (P.A.C.K.). Our Christian speaker will give you the knowledge to jump-start and strengthen your P.A.C.K. outreach.

Fill out our online form at www.acts18.org/presentations to submit a presentation request!

#### **Share Your Story!**

If you have a P.A.C.K. story, please share it with us at www.acts18.org/share-your-story, email us at info@acts18.org, or use #ChristianKindness on social media! Your story has the power to encourage and inspire

others to take part in the Planned Acts of Christian Kindness movement.

Acts 1:8 Ministry is 100% donor funded. Thank you to all of our donors for supporting our mission and keeping our resources free for all Christians. If you would like to help us train more Christians to evangelize through kindness, please visit us at www.acts18.org/donate.



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