

BLESSINGS AND COMFORT IN AN ENVELOPE

2CO 1:3 (NIV) Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, ⁴ who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God.

A recently widowed woman in our home bible study requested prayer for some financial needs. Her husband's sudden passing had left some temporary financial issues that she was struggling with and some bills were beginning to pile up. Within a few days, several of the bible study group members felt impressed by God to anonymously help and a spontaneous offering was taken and given to her with a card expressing our love and concern. Little did we know that our impromptu gift was going to be used by God in a special way in this woman's life.

This brave lady had faced the months since her husband's death with tremendous courage but she had been unable to really cry or truly express her grief and begin the healing process. We handed her the card one evening and she, of course, thought it was another one of the many condolences cards she had already received. When she opened the card later at home, the money spilled out on the table and she was overwhelmed by God's love expressed through this small gesture.

She broke down in tears and was for the first time able to really pour out all the grief that had been held in for those many months. She told us later how she cried on and off for several days and finally began to realize and admit how much she missed her husband and close companion for all those years. At the same time she was overwhelmed by how much she was loved and cared for by her heavenly father. The contents of that envelope were really a love letter from God. Our seemingly small acts of kindness and comfort can break down walls and bring healing in ways we would never expect.