

All I Can Do is Pray

9-year-old Rose came back every day during the salvation invitation at Good News Club, always with the same question: “How can I be saved?” But no matter how many times the teacher answered her question the little girl simply couldn’t grasp it.

“I don’t understand,” Rose said. “How could Jesus love me enough to die for me?”

Talking with Rose was like talking to a brick wall. No matter how hard the teacher tried to show God’s love for Rose she couldn’t comprehend how anyone could care about her that much. Her mom was in prison, and she’d never known her father. Her grandma, the only consistent person in her life, repeatedly told Rose she’d end up in prison some day just like her mother. Rose was convinced she was an unlovable child.

“I began to realize there was nothing I could say to convince Rose of God’s love for her,” Rose’s Good News Club teacher, Rebekah, said. “So I did the only thing I could do – I asked a whole team of people to pray for her.”

Oftentimes what should be our first step in reaching city kids – praying for them – becomes our last resort. For children like Rose, prayer must be the first step if the Holy Spirit is to reach their hearts.

Here are some ways to PRAY effectively for City Kids:

Prayer walk a school – gather a team of people to walk around the grounds of the school on weekends, praying for the children who will attend the Good News Club.

Relay timely information to your prayer partners through newsletters, e-mails and prayer gatherings.

Appoint a prayer coordinator, someone who will keep churches in your area abreast of specific requests.

You have not because you ask not. Ask specifically – pray for each child by name.

Praying for City Kids is the first step to reaching them – just like it was for Rose. Rebekah recalls the first day Rose finally began to understand what it meant to be loved.

“She just looked at me with tears in her eyes,” Rebekah said, “and told me she wanted to ask Jesus to forgive her sin. She finally understood that His loving sacrifice was enough.”

As a City Kid, Rose still struggles sometimes with the concept of God’s love. But she’s growing in her understanding of Jesus, and all He’s done for her. And she’s sharing His love with those around her.

“She keeps bringing her friends back to talk to me,” Rebekah said. “She wants all of them to know about Jesus.”

Rose’s life was changed forever when she understood God’s love for her – and it’s all because a few people cared enough to pray.