

**How would your church respond to these actual situations?**

**Melanie Carver**

December 15, 2009 phone call to the church office  
Looking for help with Christmas gifts and car repairs  
From KY, just moved back here in June  
Live close to your church, used to attend 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Mount Zion Church

Family of seven, Husband is an IT contractor  
They are garnishing husband's checks for student loans  
Have been on time with rent until this month, have nothing for Christmas  
Has a mechanical bill for his truck, and Dec rent is unpaid.  
His boss gave \$2000 toward truck repair. Needs \$500 more.

**What do you do next?** \_\_\_\_\_

**A small group leader from your church calls about Lucinda Wilson:**

Lucinda and Jack are members of your church. Jack runs the sound equipment.  
Lucinda is from England, they met when Jack was stationed there.

Lucinda hasn't seen her mother in 2 years, and the doctors say her mother won't survive more than 2 weeks because the cancer has spread so much.

Jack & Linda have \$200 available for a plane ticket, and could put the balance on a credit card if they have to. Their small group wants to contribute \$250. The ticket will cost \$750. Can the church provide the remaining \$300?

**What do you do next?** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mary, a member of your church, calls you about a student in her class:**

Mary says that Anna is a student in her 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class. Has had trouble hearing, Mary had the school nurse check her out, then was told by the county hearing services office that Anna needs hearing aids.

Mary and Kathy from the county have a plan to help Anna, whose mother cannot afford the hearing aids. The office can get very advanced digital hearing aids through the Lions Club. But \$200 is needed to have them fitted and adjusted. It can be paid directly to the County Hearing Services office.

Mary wants to know if the church might help with this \$200 expense.

**What do you do next?** \_\_\_\_\_

## **Mindy called from Transform America**

October 23, 2012

a ministry of New Kingdom Ministries International (You Google it and find them at: <http://www.nkmi.org> — they are in Minneapolis. Your church is not!)

Mindy says a woman in your town needs financial help. She posted a prayer request on KTIS radio's website — *PrayerWorks*. And Mindy responded.

Mindy hasn't met her in person. But "the Lord told" Mindy to help this woman— she said that three times. The woman needs \$3000 for a security deposit and Mindy has so far raised only part of it: \$771. She is calling churches on behalf of this woman to try to raise the money.

**What do you do next?** \_\_\_\_\_

## **The following email came to your church's general email account:**

Hello,

My name is Jim Knowles. I am reading a book by Timothy Keller (Prodigal God). I looked on the internet for churches in my area affiliated with Keller's church and saw your website in my search.

I have not been to church in several years. I have been involved in AA for 8 years. I am very thankful for this fellowship. I have been sober and working the steps many of my friends here are good men but when it comes to certain accountability some things are difficult to talk about ( some times I think instead of confessing my sins or character defects it is more of someone co- signing my stuff).

I know I need to fellowship with other guys and renew my faith in Christ. I am stuck and feel like the wave in the ocean when it comes to my following and obeying God.

I was hoping to maybe talk to someone and get renewed in my faith . If someone would be willing to get together and talk it would be greatly appreciated.

Look forward to getting back on the path of our Savior and being restored and be of service.

Sincerely, Jim  
(555) 663 3483

**What do you do next?** \_\_\_\_\_

**Michelle Henson**

Called 11/12/12

Lives 45 minutes away from your church, has a phone bill that's unpaid—\$185 has a speech and hearing disability and a mild retardation husband left her, son was taken by state when he was 8 gets a \$545 disability check each month and \$33 in food stamps

says her payee has been taking money out of her check as a "fee"...so she is going to ask for a new payee. The payee is supposed to pay the phone and power, but hasn't paid these things.

You ask about churches closer to her. Michelle said she has spoken to Grace Baptist, and they offered to give her a ride to church. Doesn't remember the name of the guy she spoke to.

You call Grace Baptist. Spoke to Marie in the church office. She says Michelle has been coming to them for help for at least 7 years. They have helped her with food and phone bill numerous times. They have offered repeatedly to bring her to church, but she has never come.

**What do you do next?** \_\_\_\_\_

**Stanley Terry**

Came to the church office to see you 3/6/13. Was a member of your church six years ago. Moved away, been back for 9 months. Has attended worship at your church 2-3 times since then.

Your deacons have given him food vouchers twice during the past three months. Stanley is polite and apologetic for bothering you. You smell beer on him...during your conversation he volunteers that he drank a couple today.

Stanley is 39, has a bad back. Lives in a rooming house...bunch of guys live there, a few do some drugs and drinking, fair amount of drugs in the neighborhood. They all share one kitchen and 2 bathrooms. Rent is \$105/week.

In 1990 he did 22 months jail time for possession of crack with intent to distribute. Admits he was his own best customer. Swears he's off that now, has no desire to go back to that lifestyle.

Since 1998, he's been doing carpentry work for a guy named David. David leads the *Narcotics Anonymous* group Stanley attends at the Baptist church near yours. Carpentry work has been slow lately, so Stanley asks for \$50 for groceries.

**What do you do next?** \_\_\_\_\_