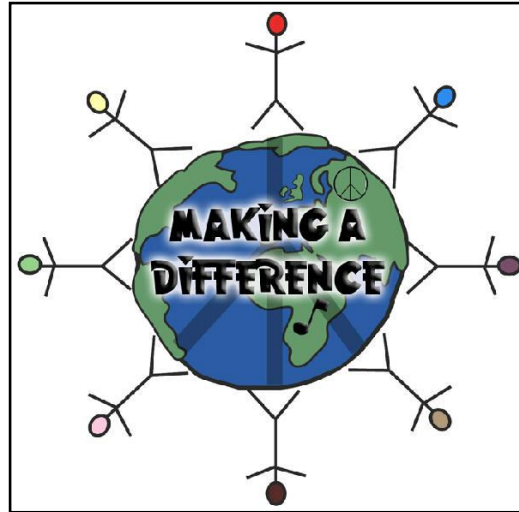


101 Ways To Change The World



**The Ability to Change The World is in
Your Hands!**

Ginny Dye

101 Ways To Change The World

Copyright © 2015 by Ginny Dye
Published by
A Voice In The World Publishing
Bellingham, WA 98229

www.AVoiceInTheWorld.com

www.WorldChangerSeries.com

This book is my gift to the world. Please copy it, email it, print it, or share it with anyone and everyone you can. It will take all of us – committed to daily action to make our world a better place!

Printed in the United States of America

World Changer Series

101 Ways To Change The World

101 Ways Women Can Change The World

101 Ways Youth Can Change The World

101 Ways Your Church Can Change The World

101 Ways Your School Can Change The World

101 Ways Your Business Can Change The World

101 Ways You Can Help Animals

101 Ways You Can Help Planet Earth

101 Ways To Show Appreciation To Volunteers

From the Author

I am so glad you are reading 101 Ways To Change The World. I have a passion to change the world, and believe that every single person has the power to make a tremendous difference. I'm hoping, since you are reading this book that YOU do too!

These books are my gift to the world. I hope you will share it with as many people as possible!

I ask people all the time whether they would like their life to matter – and if they would like to make a difference in the world. They always say, “YES!” But then they follow it up with the statement that they just don't know what to do, or that they don't have enough money to give much away.

I get it! Too often you're just not sure what to do, or how you can help. You don't understand that you can make a massive difference



without spending a penny, and without having to devote big blocks of time to volunteering. I hope these **101 Ideas** will propel you to get started, and then guide you as you move forward. Other books are waiting for you, as well!

Besides 101 Ideas, I am going to share stories with you of people who have made a difference. I hope they inspire you as much as they did me!

Readers from other countries besides the U.S.A. may find this is a particularly “American” book. That's probably because I'm an American.

© I challenge you to change or adapt the ideas for your community or country!

I'd like to share with you the words of a young person I am close to: “Ginny, I don't know why people complain about the world if they're not going to do something to change it. They should either put up, or shut up.”

Ouch. He's a little blunt but he could not be more right. No matter where you live; how much money you make (or don't make); whether you are healthy or sick; whether you are young or old; whether you are busy or have a lot of free time – YOU can make a difference.

You simply have to *CHOOSE* to. Will you raise your hand and commit to doing what you can to make this world a better place for everyone? Will YOU be a Voice In The World??

Blessings,

Ginny Dye

I Am A Voice In The World Pledge

I raise my hand to be A Voice In The World.

I will take time TODAY to make a difference in the world.

I will take time TODAY to do one thing – for one person.

I will take time TODAY to spread some love & caring in the world.

One thing – TODAY.

EVERYDAY!

Nothing is too small. Nothing is too big.

It is only important to take Action.

I will take time TODAY – to ACT – to create CHANGE!

I **AM** A Voice In The World!

**Many ways you can make a difference
won't cost you a thing!**



1) Spend an afternoon with someone you know is lonely. You don't have to make it just once. Lonely people are in need of friendship. Decide to drop by every week. Send them notes. Become a lifeline for just that one person.

2) Look around and find a kid who needs to know they matter – there are way too many of them. Now determine to make that kid know someone believes they are special. Send them a card or note every week (at least). If you know what they are interested in, send them articles about it. Send them stories that will build their self-confidence and inspire them to be all they can be. Let them know you CARE.

3) If you have flowers in your garden, share them with someone else. Take a bunch to an elderly neighbor who can no longer garden. Take some to a friend going through a hard time. Drop them off at a neighbor's house "just because".



4) If you provide some kind of professional service, offer it for FREE once a week to someone who needs it.

Free dental cleaning; Free house cleaning; Free meal at your restaurant; Free accounting service. Let your profession also be your way of giving.

5) Give anonymous, surprise gifts to co-workers or friends – with a note telling them they matter. It doesn't have to be much. A candy bar; one cookie; a flower; something you have lying around your house. Every time, it will be the fun of knowing someone cares that will make their life better.



6) Take your lunch break to clean up trash. Enlist the help of other employees to do the same.

7) Go out with your family at least 1 hour a week to clean up trash around your neighborhood, on your road, or somewhere else you know needs cleaning up.

8) Enlist the help of neighborhood kids to clean up your neighborhood, or some other place, by offering to chauffeur them somewhere they want to go as their reward.

Please receive parental permission before taking children anywhere.



DAVE GRANLUND www.davegranlund.com

9) Do you have a pool in your backyard? Offer to host a



swim party for the neighborhood kids after they spend half a day cleaning up some area.

10) Go to your local bowling alley, skating rink, amusement park, etc. and ask them to give you FREE coupons you can share with kids who need to know someone cares. Put the coupons in a special card or note that will let them know they are important.



World Changer Story

"Pastor? Can you help me?"

"Pastor? Why did he do this to me?"

"Pastor? What do I do with my son?"

The parishioners peppered the gentle man with questions . . . seeking his attention, his guidance and his advice. Known for his community involvement this man dedicates his life to serving others as he helps guide policies and guidelines in organizations throughout town.

Matthew Watts is a small church pastor in a small town in a small Southern state in the U.S. His life revolves around his family, his church and his business . . . pretty typical sounding, huh?

Yet Matthew's life is a success story if I ever read one. Read how he grew up and you'll realize it could have ended drastically different.

"Mama . . . wake up! I'm ready! Look at me mama . . . I am all ready to go hunting. Daddy will be here soon and I didn't over sleep. Look at me, mama . . . please wake up . . . He said he'd be here at 5 and it's 4 but I didn't want to be late. I'm going hunting . . ."

The excited boy ran out of the bedroom to sit by the front door, every muscle tense in anticipation of his "grown up" excursion with his dad. Matthew lived with his mom and his dad was unreliable at best.

Matthew's mom grew restless and uncomfortable. Knowing her son was in danger of being hurt, she saw no way to help him avoid the pain. Having divorced his dad several years previous, she knew too well the string of heartache and pain that lay ahead for young Matthew. Today would be no different, she feared.

The question loomed in her mind . . . *"How do I explain to him why his dad won't be here?"* Love for her son rose strong in her mother's heart and she got up to wait.

If only Ricky was still here. Ricky, 7 years older than Matthew, had cushioned the hard world for Matthew. He had taught Matthew the skills boys needed to survive in the male world . . . how to balance a bike, to dive and swim, to pole vault, to shoot hoops, throw a football and hit a baseball. Ricky guided Matthew from wrong to right. He had shown him

for a few short years how to be a real man. But now, a dark void loomed where Ricky had once stood tall.

"Oh, Ricky!" The silent plea went up to heaven in a sort of prayer. The mother's grief and anguish nearly crushed her as she remembered Matthew's devastation a few months earlier when Ricky died in a car accident. Five other people survived with no injuries . . . but her son, and Matthew's hero, had died. So much in life didn't make sense.

In the den, she could hear Matthew stirring . . . sitting down and getting up to look out the window.

Ten year old Matthew was dressed and ready to go hunting an hour early . . . the trouble began when 5 am came and went, 6 am came and went, as did 7 am, 8 am, 9 am, and his father never showed up. Never. Never kept his promise. Matthew's dad only lived one mile from him and broken promises were his standard. Alcohol abuse controlled his dad and rejection was most often his gift to his sons.

Waiting in his house for a dad who never appeared, created tremendous chaos, conflict and deep emotional pain in this young boy's heart. Although many other days existed in Matthews's life where his dad broke his promises, this day was a turning point. The non-existent hunting trip evolved into a cornerstone event that would influence the rest of his life. As tears welled up in his eyes and spilled down, Matthew knew in his heart of hearts that both his dad *and* his adored big brother were never coming back into his life. No one, it seemed, was there to help him grow into a man.

From that heartbreaking day, young Matthew used both the memories of the man he never wanted to be and the role model of his brother, to shape his destiny. Other men did come to him through academics, boys' organizations and athletic teams; he found examples of true loving, dedicated males. Men that offered commitment, a helping hand, and who kept promises. And as he grew into a man, Matthew dedicated his life to serving young people through numerous youth organizations, his church life and his involvement in his community. He chose to give back to the surrogate organizations that had saved his life. He chose the kids that need someone.

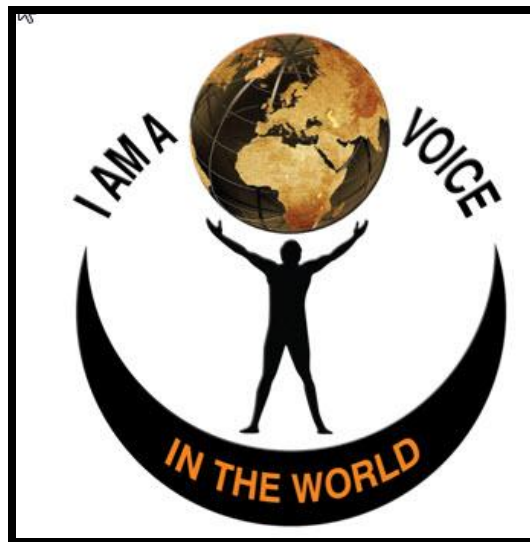
"Money can buy food, clothing and shelter - and children certainly need those things - but love, compassion and care, money cannot buy. They can only be supplied by caring men like you and me. This is how we repay the debt of gratitude that we owe," states Matthew in a recent newspaper article.

I hope you are not like young Matthew . . . waiting for someone who never comes, yet I know some of us understand that hollow hurt very well.

I challenge you to choose today to be like Matthew . . . choose to be different and be the type of person who keeps his or her promises. Choose to let any past disappointments and hurt become the foundation for you to help other people. It is not easy to overcome the hurts of the past. Take it slowly and one day at a time. Matthew did and so can you. He carries his big brother's legacy of love with him wherever he goes and looks out for those in need.

He is making a difference in his world, one child at a time. You can too . .

BE A VOICE IN THE WORLD!



More ideas...

- 11) Send at least one email a day telling someone how much they are appreciated; thanking them for something they did for you; or telling them something you like about them.



Many of the bad things happening in our world are done by people who never believed they mattered. No one took the time to let them know they are special. Just that one act – changing a person’s anger and sadness with your love – can have a far reaching impact!



- 12) Send a note of appreciation to your local police station or Fire House. That doesn’t happen nearly enough.

- 13) Volunteer for at least 1 hour a week at a local organization that needs your help. If you like elderly people, volunteer at a Senior Center or Nursing Home. If you like kids, volunteer your time with them. No matter what your interest is, there is a group who



17) Put a Thank You note and a cookie in the box for your Paper Delivery person.

18) Put a big glass jar on your counter. Have everyone in your family (even if it's just you) use it for all their loose change. Every 6 months decide who you are going to give it to – making a family ritual out of the event.

19) Offer to baby-sit for a single Mom who is at her wit's end.

20) Mow your neighbor's yard while they are at work.



World Changer Story # 2

"Morgan? How are you? Feeling better today?" Hope rose in Jeanne's voice as she awaited her daughter's answer.

"Morgan? Are you there?" Hope fell flat as silence was the only answer.

"Morgan? Honey, please talk to me." Worry mixed with love resonated in Jeanne's voice.

"Yeah, Mom. I'm here." Morgan's monotone reply gave clear view into her depression.

Morgan was a young, gifted, talented writer but words were difficult to find at the times her depression rose so deep.

Her mother knew she was trying to feel better, to "get better." Both she and her husband, Robert believed in their daughter and loved her fiercely.

Morgan kept her counselors' appointments and took her medications. She continued to pursue her writing career. But things weren't getting better. It had been 6 years. Six long years of Morgan fighting a losing battle, it seemed. Accurate and solid information on medications and mental health disorders proved to be vague. When you are fighting for your life, sketchy, technical, out of date information only makes your struggle more intense.

Tragically, the depression robbed Morgan of her will to live and she committed suicide.

Her parents knew that in their grief, they held a key. This key would unlock the door to true, life-giving help for other families dealing with mental distress. That key would reveal an easy to understand, easy to use, easy to access website totally devoted to providing up-to-date, accurate, and pertinent information. The key would become HELPGUIDE.ORG. Helpguide's mission: *"to empower you and your loved ones to understand, prevent, and resolve health challenges."*

With the help of a local chapter of a national service organization, the Segals invested much of their own money into creating and developing this vast website. They poured time, energy and love into this endeavor, vowing to reduce the chances of other families having to endure a similar tragedy.

The website is professionally written with the exact clear and concise information . . . the kind of information the Segal family could have used a few years earlier. This grief-spurred idea has literally enhanced the lives of thousands and possibly saved quite a few.

HELPGUIDE.ORG has had no advertising in the ten years it has existed. Amazingly, it had over 10 million hits last year alone!!

Robert and Jeanne are known for expressing love and belief to the people around them. They have allowed something horrible to turn into something positive. They could have chosen to ignore the need they saw. They could have wallowed in grief and let it overwhelm them so that they never saw anything positive in life again. But they have chosen to work through their sadness. They have chosen to honor Morgan's life with a book of her poetry and with a life-giving website. Each day they choose to honor her. Morgan would have wanted them to do just that . . . find joy in giving to others.

I am impressed with these parents and I want to choose life like they did. I know they loved and believed in their daughter and now they believe in the millions of people that visit their site.

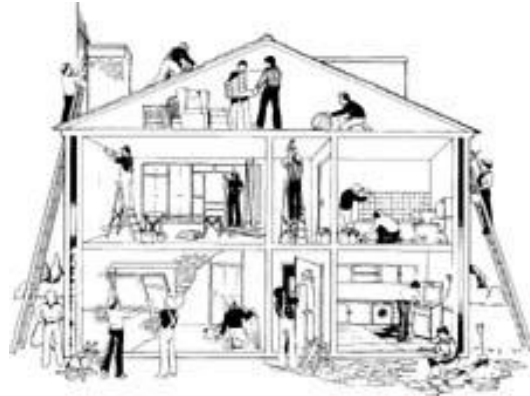
I hope that tragedy has kept far from you. But if you too are grieving I gently trust that you will find a channel of life within the grief to spur you on. I have known deep sadness and I understand. I also understand that life moves on and that there is joy to be discovered even in grief. I do wish for you tender joy, sweet memories, and a promising future.

As the Segals chose to live with an eye toward a better future, you and I can do the same. We can take our sadness and turn it outward to help others live a better life. I want you to remember that you are not alone... no matter what you are going through.

And you CAN make a difference!

BE A VOICE IN THE WORLD!

21)
Contact your local Habitat for Humanity. Offer to help with building their next home. No, you don't have to be a builder – anyone can



help create a home for a family who would not have one otherwise!

22) Become an Email Pen Pal with someone. It could be a kid in a detention center; someone in a

Nursing Home; someone who has Special Needs and can't leave home; a Foster child... It is so easy to send Daily Emails in order to make a difference in someone's life.



23) If you have an old computer that still works take it to an elderly neighbor, then commit to teaching them how to operate it enough to send and receive email.

Give them a connection to the world. What a great way for them to be connected to their family that is probably online. Their kids and grandkids will think they are so cool, and be so impressed that they mastered the computer! While you're at it become an E-mail Pen Pal with them yourself!

24) Help someone who is elderly or sick by helping them around their home. You could paint; garden; mow lawn; shovel snow; take out trash. Just

look around. You'll be able to discover what needs to be done.

25) Contact your local school district and ask how you can help. You may be mentoring a child; helping them study; reading out loud; monitoring the lunch room... Whatever it is, it is valuable. Our kids truly are our future. We can't do too much for them NOW!

26) Here's a fun one... If you have an air compressor put a big sign in your yard that says "Checking Air Pressure for FREE". As people drive through do what the sign says, then air up their tires. As they leave give them a copy of this book, or just direct them to the www.WorldChangersSeries.com website so they can come up with their own cool ways to make a difference.



27) Teach a FREE class at the YMCA/YWCA in your area.

28) Teach a FREE class on Changing Your World at your local community college. Let their homework assignments be doing something to make a difference each week, then coming back to report on the impact. The final homework assignment will be working together as a class to do some big project in the community. What a great way to make friends and make a difference at the same time!

29) Do the exact same thing at a local Elementary, Middle or High School. What a great way to multiply your impact – as well as teaching our youth to make a difference!

30) Take someone a tomato plant in a planter and put it in a sunny spot. That person will enjoy up to 5 lbs of fresh tomatoes off that one plant. If they can't take care of it themselves, then make sure you water it for them.

World Changer Story # 3

"Sarah, what's the next video going to be?"

"I'm not sure . . . I've been thinking I want to do something different."

"Yeah? Sounds good . . . what you thinking you want to do?"

"I don't know!"

"I have an idea . . . you know it costs about \$150,000 to shoot a video . . . what if we donated most of the money and did it low budget?"

"Hum . . . I really like the sound of that! Wonder how low budget we could do it? Wonder how much we could give away?"

Ever heard of Sarah McLachlan? Grammy award winning musician, singer and songwriter? She's sold over 35 million albums worldwide so I bet you've heard of her music.

Several years ago in a conversation much like the one above, Sarah decided to produce the music video to the song WORLD on FIRE herself and donate the saved money to organizations around the world. What started out as desire to do something different, turned into a life-changing investment in communities, villages, children, and widows.

Sarah knows the power of music and the power of people. Her interest in helping others motivated her to found the "Lilith Fair" tour. Touring with a group of all female musicians, the Lilith Fair gave more than \$7 million to charities in three years. Touted as the most successful all-female music "festival" in music history, Lilith Fair showed Sarah that investing in people, making music and then giving away money go hand in hand.

Truly, that is her way of life. Many times her phone rings with a request to perform a benefit, to lend her name to a cause or to give her time to an organization, and Sarah says "yes."

She knows how to give love because she was given love first by her adoptive parents.

Sarah knows that love sometimes looks like time, sounds like music and sometimes it is simply her money or the money she helped generate being donated to people who can put it to good use. Sarah likes the connection her music gives. Her fame and wealth just mean she can connect more people to life.

"Mom? It is Sarah. I know you feel bad . . . but I wanted you to be one of the first to know -- I am pregnant! Oh Mom, it's a wonderful feeling . . ."

you're right. I want you to feel better, Mom . . . I know the cancer is winning and I know you are tired, but hang on, I'll be home soon. And Mom, I'm going to have a baby!"

Sarah lost her mother to cancer and had her baby that same year.

She knows that sometimes the line between life and death is narrow. Her financial contributions have given thousands life . . . medicine, education, food, shelter.

The opening lyrics from her *World On Fire* song reflect her desire to reach out and offer life:

*"Hearts are worn in these dark ages
You're not alone in this story's pages
The light has fallen amongst the living and the dying
And I'll try to hold it in, yeah I'll try to hold it in"*

Can you guess the cost of her the music video for this song?

\$100,000?

\$150,000?

How about \$15.00! That is right, fifteen dollars for the cost of a mini DV tape was the entire cost of the music video! No studio, no makeup session, no assistants, no wardrobe or extras, no filming costs . . . just Sarah and her guitar singing her song.

The rest of the money (as spotlighted in the video) was scattered throughout the world for such things as:

- a 12 room clinic and medicine for 5000 people for 6 months in Kenya
- running a street hospital for children in India for a year
- feeding 10 children in Calcutta 3 times a day for a year
- building 6 wells
- helping 100 widows develop income
- sending 145 girls to school for one year in Afghanistan
- training 10 teachers in Afghanistan
- the total cost of an orphanage in South Africa
- a Mobil Medical Unit for the Aged



- schooling for 70 former child soldiers
- buying 5 bicycle ambulances
- all the nuts and bolts to hold together 50 houses
- 5,000 pounds of potato seeds

...and the list goes on and on -- because one woman decided her voice and her resources could again be better spent on people rather than promoting her fame.

I listened to McLachlan's music before I knew this story but I'm even more of a fan now. I want to be like Sarah . . . more concerned for the people of the world. I wonder if you want to be like that, too? We can be, you know . . . just because we can't give away \$150,000 doesn't mean we can't give our time, our hands or even just \$5.00 to help someone else.

BE A VOICE IN THE WORLD!



When it's all over, it's not who you were... It's whether your life made a Difference!



Here are some ideas that will require just a few dollars investment:

31) Buy daffodil and tulip bulbs in the Fall when they are cheapest and plant them at your school, church, neighbor's house, or anywhere else where their beauty can spread good feelings.

31) Buy a gift certificate for 1 ice cream cone; 1 Cookie; 1 piece of pie; 1 rose; 1 pizza slice; 1 Video Rental; etc. It doesn't have to be much to make someone feel special. Include a note letting the receiver know how special they are. Just think – not only are you making someone feel special – you are also helping the businesses in your town.

32) After you've bought several of the "Just 1" Certificates listed above, let the store owner know what you're doing and ask if they will donate some for you to extend what you can give away. Ask around to find out who really needs an extra boost to feel good and make sure the certificates find their way into their hands.



33) Form your own "Good Deed Patrol." Watch for people doing something to make a difference in the community. Listen to conversations to discover these people. Then talk with your radio station or local newspaper and ask if they will include a small section in the paper, or a small spot on the radio programs to say THANK YOU to these people. It doesn't have to be much. Think how excited someone would be to open the paper and see a THANK YOU NOTICE to them for something they did. Don't you think more people would want to be noticed by the "Good Deed Patrol?"



34) Pay the Road Toll for the person behind you.

How about 3 or 4 behind you? Have the Toll Keeper tell them to pass on the kindness to someone else today.

35) Buy a few extra items at your grocery store and drop them by the local homeless shelter or food bank.

36) Have a garage sale and donate the proceeds to your favorite charity. You'll have to pay for signs and maybe some advertising but it shouldn't be much.

37) Organize your neighborhood around a cause and have a Neighborhood Yard Sale. One neighborhood adopted an orphanage in Thailand and worked together to send thousands of dollars from the garage sale. In addition to the money they sent, neighbors became closer and new friends were made.

38) Bake a plate of cookies for a neighbor or elderly friend. Cookies are appreciated by everyone – so don't stop there!

39) Want to blow someone's mind? Every time someone is rude or mean to you, respond with kindness. One lady was treated very rudely by an attendant at her gas station. She responded by taking him a plate of cookies and telling him to have a nice day. Now he goes out of his way to be nice to her.



We all hold the world in our hands. We all have the power to make a difference. Large or small – we can choose to be the difference in our world today!

40) Search for ways to compliment people every day. If your waitress does a good job be sure to tell her. Let the dry cleaning attendant know he has a great smile. Tell a shop owner if you think her store is nice, clean, pretty, etc. LOOK for ways to make people feel special.

World Changer Story

"I'm sorry Jim . . . It just won't work."

"Sorry guy . . . great idea . . . but not going with it."

"Sounds wonderful . . . never gonna happen, sorry."

"Jim, I wish I could help . . . but sorry, it just won't work."

Jim Stovall was used to hearing the rejections. He had been all over the TV industry looking for supporters. He knew what he had in his mind would work and would revolutionize the television work for the visually impaired . . . if he could just make it materialize.

Jim had lost his eye sight just shy of 30 years of age and was tired. So tired and discouraged he seriously considered staying in his room and never coming out. He even equipped himself with a TV, VCR, a radio and a phone . . . and originally determined to never leave.



However, at a support group for the blind and visually impaired, he was challenged to "see" beyond his limitations to what he could imagine. Frustrated that he could only marginally enjoy his favorite classical movies, he made a life changing decision . . . he chose to leave his world of selfish isolation and partner with Kathy, a woman he had met at that support group.

Kathy, who is also legally blind, caught Jim's vision.

Although in the beginning they had no knowledge of HOW to do what Jim envisioned, they just "knew that they knew" there was a way.

Jim's frustration with movie and TV watching was that as a blind man, he missed most of the important scenic and visual elements crucial to understanding the story. The movies simply needed more narrative to help describe what was going on so the visually impaired could "see" the images in their minds.

Using borrowed equipment and trial and error, the Narrative Television Network was born.

"I'd like to thank the Academy for this award. I know I was told that what I 'saw' couldn't be achieved . . . well, I am just thankful; I couldn't accept that truth and kept on trying. What did I have to lose? Nothing . . . and everything to gain." This could have been Jim's acceptance speech less than one year later, when he accepted an Emmy from the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences for "Technology that has expanded the use of Television."

Today NTN reaches over 25 million homes in the U.S. and is shown in 11 foreign countries. Numerous awards, countless articles and many, many broadcasts later, NTN is changing the lives of the 13 million blind and visually impaired people in the U.S. alone.

What exactly does NTN do? It ***"adds the voice of a narrator to the existing programming sound track without any of the original audio or video."***

Jim did not stop there. He has gone on to become a highly sought after motivational speaker and award winning author. He travels the world granting interviews, making speeches, and serving as President of Narrative Television Network.

His decision to come out of his room has given millions of people new hope, new enjoyment and new life.

And Jim now enjoys the same hope, enjoyment and new life that his vision and determination have given to others.

You know, Jim could have been angry and cynical. Losing your sight as a young man is a hard blow. As an All American Athlete he was used to success. He had started losing his sight at age 7 but nothing prepares you for total blindness. Jim was a fighter but he nearly lost his fight. Thankfully, he allowed someone to partner with him and challenge him.

I am glad he made that decision. Sometimes it is tough to let others help us . . . but it is so rewarding when we risk ourselves and let others in.

Our impact becomes truly world changing when we allow our challenges to ignite a passion to make a difference for others!

BE A VOICE IN THE WORLD



41) Hold a Homeless Shelter Scavenger Hunt. You'll need a group of people – the more the better. Next, call a Homeless Shelter and ask for a list of needs, asking them to put the ones they



need most, or get the least of, at the top of the list. Assign points to each item – with the most needed item getting the most points. Now send everyone out with their list – letting them know that the team, or the person, that creates the most points with what they bring in will win the Contest. Either put up a prize yourself or ask a local restaurant if they will provide a Free meal to the winners. Collect everything and take it to the Shelter.

42) Do a Toy Drive for your local Battered Women's Shelter or Homeless Shelter if it has kids. They don't have to be new. Go around your neighborhood and ask each family to donate the "in good condition" toys their kids don't use any more. There will be tons!



43) Deliver Personal Care items to an elderly neighbor. Maybe they need you to go to the grocery store on a weekly basis. What can you do to help them maintain their independence?



44) Be a "Foster Home" for cats & dogs at your local shelter. Many of them need homes to live in until they can be adopted out to the right family.

45) Volunteer to read and play games with children who are in your local hospital.

46) Do you have great administrative skills? Find out what organization in your community needs them, and then volunteer to help them out.

47) Start a new tradition by organizing a "Special Kids Day" of fun for abused children in your neighborhood. Probably more than anyone else, these kids need to know they are loved and special.



48) If you have kids of your own and you have plans to do something fun, add at least one kid to your family for the day. There are so many kids from bad families. Give them a taste of what a good family is like by including them in yours

49) Develop a team of people (whether family, friends or fellow employees to refurbish and repair toys that will then be given to needy children.

50) Collect socks for the homeless. One 13-year-old has collected 8,500 pairs to date. What a difference she is making!

I also have a friend who has started a grassroots organization to provide socks for the homeless.

Incredible results! Go to:
<http://sockittoemsockcampaign.org/>

World Changer Story

Most of us know that the country of India is a vast and wonderful country. With great potential and diverse problems, it has many needs. Jesse and Ann Williams went in 1971 to be part of India's solution. "Honey," said Jesse....*"pack a few bags, get out the atlas. We're going to India."*

As a professor of animal husbandry at the University of Minnesota, Jesse responded to the influence of his Methodist upbringing. He grew up in a small town in the U.S., hearing of missionaries and their enticing stories of far away places. He wanted to get out of town. Even though he was a transplanted Texan living in Minnesota, he was not fulfilled simply teaching in the U.S. He wanted to take his knowledge of animals and help... he wanted to do more!

So, "go" he and his wife did.

They set up living life as closely to the Indian locals as they could. Jesse believes that by enlisting the help of the local people, and sharing your vision with them, their passion rises, and solutions to problems are born.



Because of his success, when most of the 200 U.S. AID workers in India in the 1970's were required to go home, Williams was one of three who was invited to stay. He had the listening ear of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi any time he needed it. As a result of his work a university a 55,000 heifer dairy farm was created. This has made India one of the world's largest

milk producers.

After a while, Ann heard those words again... "Honey," said Jesse *"pack a few bags, get out the atlas. We're going to. . ."*

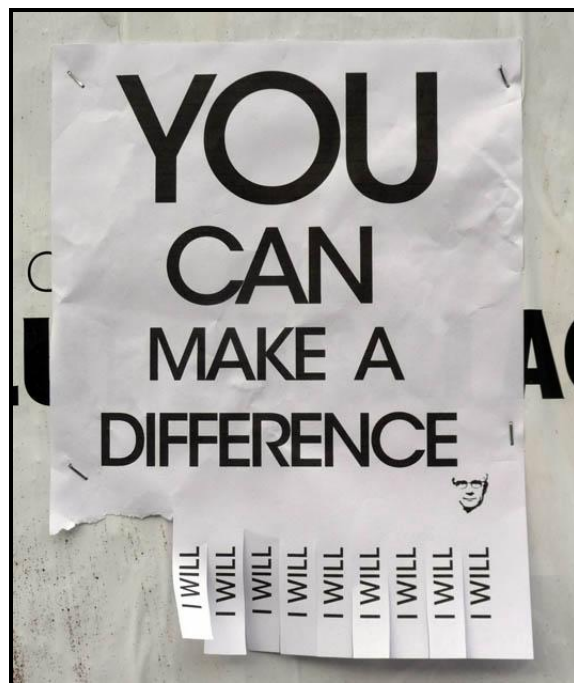
She has heard them 29 times in 25 years... as they have moved and lived and helped 29 different countries be more successful and productive. They certainly did make a difference... all over the world. In the year 2002, Jesse celebrated his 83rd birthday. Know how he celebrated? Well, first by getting his **2 artificial heart valves** checked out by his cardiologist, and then by packing those suitcases again. That year, he went to Cambodia just to see how he could help!

Amazing couple, huh? I would love to see **their** family photos!

Think about it though... a man and his wife spending their lifetime pursuing their dreams of helping people!!! They believed enough in the people of this world to share their knowledge and compassion by going to their countries and living among them.

Have you ever thought about what you would **really** like to do?

You know... life is short and even if you live to be like Jesse, there's no time to waste. So, I encourage you now to sincerely ask yourself "what would I love to do?" Then listen to your answers... and begin taking small steps toward that dream or goal. And while you are moving toward your goal, make MAKING A DIFFERENCE a part of all you do!



51) If you are into quilting or crocheting, why not make a blanket for a Homeless or Battered Women's Shelter?

52) Collect posters to beautify rooms in Nursing Homes & Shelters. Beauty always makes a difference!

53) Approach your local performing arts center to give Free passes to events – the give them to children in a Safe House or Shelter. Giving them a chance to see what is in the world besides the reality of their own situation will make a huge difference.



54) Do you sometimes have snow deep enough to cover your fire hydrants? Make special flags for them to mark their location. If there is ever a need to locate them it will indeed make a huge difference.

55) Find someone's yard that is horribly overgrown, and then send in a team to clean it up, taking all the clippings to your local Green Recycling Center.

56) Paint over violent graffiti. Grab a group to help you as you Reclaim your city or community!

57) Take daily walks with an elderly neighbor who doesn't feel comfortable or safe going out on their own.



58) Invite someone who is lonely to all your family celebrations. Make sure they know you aren't just reaching out to them because they are lonely – let them know you really WANT them with you. Everyone longs to know they are important and wanted.

59) Weatherize someone's house for winter with insulation and weather-stripping on doors and windows. You will make them more comfortable, and you will help them save money on heating costs!

60) Secure doormats to the floor surface in an elderly person's home to make sure they don't slip and fall. Falls are the primary reason elderly people are forced to leave their homes. Help them stay in the place they love best for as long as possible!

World Changer Story

Muhammad walked slowly down the muddy road in Bangladesh, his heart breaking as starved faces gazed at him pitifully, their blank eyes begging for help. Children who should be playing in the streets were laying helplessly, their life ebbing away from starvation. He knew that most of them would die from starvation. His heart was ripped by the looks of desperation on the faces of parents who knew their children were dying but could do nothing to help them.

Bangladesh, caught in the grip of yet another natural disaster these parents could do nothing to stop, was losing more than a million people who were dying horrible deaths.

Muhammad's eyes filled with tears as he remembered his own beginning...

By all accounts, Muhammad had every reason to make excuses for his lack of opportunity. Born the third of nine children in 1940 in a small village in Bangladesh (then known as British India) Muhammad was four when his family moved to the city of Chittagong – escaping a famine that claimed millions of people. When he was nine, his mother was afflicted with a mental illness. But even with the resulting family difficulties little Muhammad excelled at school – he had an insatiable thirst for knowledge. By the age of 21, he had received his Master's Degree in Economics.

Over the next few years Muhammad continued his schooling and held government and teaching positions in both Bangladesh and the United States. Little did he know that his love of learning, his understanding of economics and his years of living in the U.S. would change the lives of millions of people.

And now here he was. . . Bangladesh was in the grip of a horrific famine that was claiming innocent lives.

An idea started to take root in his consciousness and soon his vision became very clear. Ask him what that vision is and he'll tell you it's the total eradication of poverty from the world. A huge vision, right? Yet it was a natural progression for Muhammad -- his years of study and research in economics coupled with his deep understanding of both Eastern and Western culture gave birth to his solution.

What is the one thing the poorest of the poor cannot get? Credit -- loans. Muhammad had the crazy idea of opening a bank that gave credit to those who could **never** receive it. It would be a bank that would empower the **very** poorest people by helping them become entrepreneurs.



And so, in 1976 Muhammad created the Grameen Bank which gives microcredit (small loans) to the poorest of the poor so they can launch businesses and lift their families out of poverty. Is it working? Oh, yes – it is – in a BIG way!! The World Bank recently acknowledged Muhammad’s radical idea: *“this business approach to the alleviation of poverty has allowed millions of individuals to work their way out of poverty with dignity.”*

Muhammad says, *“Grameen is a message of hope, a program for putting homelessness and destitution in a museum so that one day our children will visit it and ask how we could have allowed such a terrible thing to go on for so long.”*

This amazing man has won many, many awards around the world because of his far-reaching, sustainable ideas. In 2006, he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize and was named by Business Week as one of “The Greatest Entrepreneurs of All Time.”

But Muhammad’s sharp mind and huge heart have not stopped with the creation of the Grameen Bank and microcredit. He has recently published a book entitled *Creating a World Without Poverty* in which he challenges and empowers businesses to make a difference in the world.

What would have happened if Muhammad had spent his time thinking about what he couldn’t do instead of imagining and acting upon what he could do? Just think of the millions of lives around the world that his simple but profound and revolutionary ideas have changed!

Have you ever caught yourself limiting yourself by thinking, “I can’t do that” or “I’m only one person” or “If I only had more money, a different upbringing, lived in a different neighborhood. . . I could do this or accomplish that”?

Your potential – like Muhammad Yunus’ – is unlimited. It doesn’t matter where you were born or who your parents are. It doesn’t matter what your past was like or where you find yourself today. Take the word

“can’t” out of your vocabulary and replace it with the word “can.”
Exchange the word “problem” with the word “opportunity” and watch
your world change!



Your ability to make a difference depends on your choice to do it. It's just that simple.

61) Clean the gutters for an elderly or disabled neighbor. It may seem like a small thing to you, but it is a HUGE thing to them.

62) Take over a bag of salt to these same neighbors to help with melting icy stairs and sidewalks. It will help keep them safe, and enable them to come and go during freezing weather.

63) Birds are always a delight for those who are housebound to watch. Take over a bird feeder and keep it filled with birdseed. What joy it will bring!

64) The elderly and homebound often miss out on the fun of holidays because they aren't able to handle the traditions and decorations, yet they usually have boxes of items that made their holidays special over the years. Go over, pull out those boxes and help them decorate – then make sure you go back to put them all away!



65) Plant a neighborhood garden, with everyone taking part in caring for it. When the garden is at its peak you'll be able to make daily trips to the local Shelters with fresh produce. When the season is over have a Harvest Block Party to celebrate the difference you made.

66) Do everything you can to conserve Energy and Water. These precious commodities have an impact on every area of our lives.

67) Do you like to throw parties? Throw a big party and invite as many people as you can fit. Their "ticket" to the event will be a bag full of groceries for the local food pantry. Make sure to send along a list of what the Food Pantry needs most.



68) Contact Amnesty International and start writing letters to prisoners in foreign countries. Whether it's just you, your class, or your fellow employees – you will make a huge difference to those receiving the letters.



69) If you live in an area where there are migrant workers, put together a program for the children of the workers. Enlist the community center and area churches to give you a place to meet, then play games, make crafts, etc. Without a program like this, many of these kids would be left in hot cars all day while their parents work.

70) *Listen to what one group of classmates did...*

Last summer 50 of my classmates and I went to the Community Center. We painted it, fixed the chairs, and basketball hoops; we bought some more balls and equipment with the money we raised from School Rummage and Bake Sale. We repainted the lines on the courts and planted some flowering plants in front.



My Dad can repair anything so he and a few of his buddies repaired the Jungle-Gym, the slide and the swings out back. Then we painted all of them rainbow colors and weeded the back lot.

We had a lot of fun and I know we made a difference!

World Changer Story

"David? You ready?"

Gerald got on his knee and gave his "Little Brother" a hug. Saturdays were his favorite day of the week. Mentoring his "Little Brother" gave him such a kick. The public housing project was worlds away from Wall Street and the international business world. Yet the people he met here were "*wonderfully gifted, intelligent, and savvy—they just didn't have a path into the mainstream.*"

"Hey, Gerald! You bet I am ready. I've been practicing throwing...all week. Waiting for you. I practiced like I said I would." David was all smiles and the two "brothers" went out in the yard to throw the ball for a while. Saturdays were David's favorite day of the week, as well.

Just him and Gerald.

Normally Gerald Chertavian's days were spent in the high-finance business world...wheeling and dealing, raising money, investing, marketing programs, advertising, making money and spending money. Gerald certainly knew the power and grand wealth of the business world.

Now he was learning David's world. David lived in a neighborhood of violent crime and extreme uncertainty. New York City, USA has several dangerous neighborhoods and David's was unfortunately the worst. These intelligent people faced huge barriers -- getting out of the ghetto's poverty was extremely difficult. Gerald wanted to help -- he wanted to make a difference. He believed these folks were important and deserved a chance.

And so he began to dream – and his dream started to take shape. In his dream, Gerald's business would connected people who needed communication skills, college classes and business experience with existing companies.

What if he could make it reality?

Gerald kept his dream alive as he spent the next few years making money and making contacts.



London, Amsterdam, New York and Boston were his offices. As a businessman, he was savvy, successful and full of know-how. His dream remained in the back of his mind...taking shape, growing, and waiting for the right time.

Before too long Gerald knew he was ready. He sold his multimillion-dollar business and established "Year-Up."

"Year Up gives students a stipend while they take technical classes and gain some professional polish. Then it sends them into a six-month paid apprenticeship, where they test their skills but still can call on the support of Year Up staff and mentors. Every day there's an emphasis on...the ABC component—Attitude, Behavior, Communication. And that impresses employers."

I love this. Gerald is taking people who have so much to offer and helping them.

You know, I believe you can't out-give the universe. Gerald and his staff are living proof of that belief. Now with his money and business savvy, his programs are changing lives right now, as well as ensuring his students' futures remain optimistic and constructive. Giving much more than money, "Year Up" gives life!

A Year -- how much difference a year can make! Or can a year make a difference?

What about you? What can you do in a year to make a difference in your world?

Why not start now? Take the first steps...and then keep on walking – and dreaming...just like Gerald.

Nothing will change in your life (or mine) unless we get started. Let's take it one day at a time...making the most of our time. I will, will you?

BE A VOICE IN THE WORLD!



71) If you play a sport, talk to all your teammates and have them bring in their old equipment. Much of it will still be in great shape. Donate it to a team in a less fortunate part of town, or find a group overseas that will be thrilled to receive the equipment for teams in their own country that have nothing.



72) If you live on a lake, do your part in keeping it clean. Go out in your boat and pick up trash and debris in the lake. Take a picnic – you might as well have fun while you’re making a difference!

73) Is there an area in your community that needs beautifying? Raise money to buy plants and bulbs – perennials are best because they keep coming back – and also ask your local nursery to donate some plants. Plan a planting day and create beauty in your world.



74) Start your own mini-nursery to beautify areas in your community. Most shrubs can be rooted from a cutting. Ask your local nursery for extra pots, or let your community know you need them (you’ll get plenty!). Buy some rooting compound, dip the cuttings, and plant them in your pots full of potting soil. Don’t be afraid to ask an expert for their help. When your new plants are established plant them all over town or in people’s yards. It won’t cost you anything but the rewards will be huge.

75) In keeping with the idea above, start your own “Annual Seeding Trays” when it is the right time in your area. Many people can’t afford to buy plants from the nursery. You can start them yourself from seed, and then give them to people in your community.



76) Get a group of friends or colleagues together and give blood. There is always a need.

77) If you have artistic talent use it to create a mural for a school, hospital ward, Shelter, etc.



78) Design a website for a local charity.

79) Read to a visually-impaired person. Go to the library and bring them books on tape – returning them when they are ready for more. You could also purchase a Kindle Ebook reader and then set them up with a membership to Audible. You will make thousands of books available to them!

80) Organize a tea party or entertainment for a local Senior Day Center.

World Changer Story

He peers into her eyes and asks, “*What do you see?*”

“It’s a bit blurry.”

“That’s okay, be patient, it will clear up.”

“Oh my! Oh my! I can see your face!”

The elderly woman reached out and touched the doctor’s face as tears streamed down hers. She had lost her sight to cataracts and had no hope of ever seeing again. She missed watching her grandchildren play, watching her daughter rock the baby, watching the sunrises and sunsets. And then someone told her about the Aravind Eye Hospital where she could get cataract surgery for free.

Dr. Govindappa Venkataswamy (better known as Dr. V) decided as a young man that *“intelligence and capability are not enough. There must be the joy of doing something beautiful.”* And that something beautiful happened when he mortgaged his home (instead of retiring) and opened a hospital in Madurai, India so he could perform free or low-cost cataract surgery for the poorest of India’s poor. He performed 5,000 surgeries the very first year!

When social entrepreneur David Green learned about Dr. V, he was intrigued. When he found out the only reason Dr. V did 5,000 surgeries instead of more was because of the cost of the lenses (\$150 a pair), he was hooked! And when David learned it only cost \$10 to make the lenses, he became passionate about helping Dr. V and thousands of people who had lost their sight to cataracts. David managed to arrange for donations, but quickly decided making the lenses themselves was a better way to go. He calls it “compassionate capitalism” where instead of focusing on getting the highest possible profit from every item sold, the focus is on a smaller profit from each item and greater sales volume.

And so David started Aurolab in India which now supplies Dr. V with affordable lenses for millions of people! More than 2 million surgeries are performed every year at Aravind Eye Hospital using the products made by Aurolab. Oh yes – they now produce 10% of the world supply of lenses at only \$5 a pair! (And in addition to intraocular lenses, they’ve added glasses lenses, optical lenses, suture needles, cataract kits and hearing aids.)



Aurolab's products are used by eye care institutions and ophthalmologists in more than 120 countries. They produce millions of lenses each year and make a 30% profit. Using the profits from Aurolab, Dr. V has opened five new eye hospitals in southern India.

These two men believe that humans are put on Earth not to get rich, but to serve. And that is just what they are doing – performing “miracles” for elderly Indians living in remote villages by restoring their sight. They've now added hearing aids to the mix! These people are given back their dignity and their ability to contribute to their communities once again.

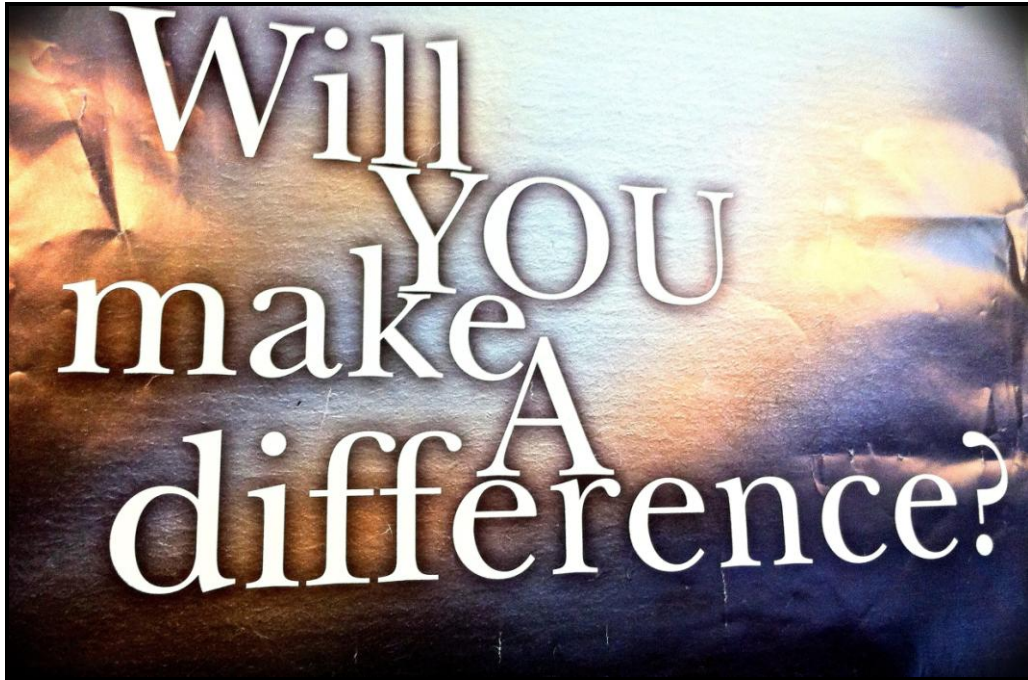
There is a very important lesson here for you and me today. Dr. V and David Green are both very successful in what they are doing. But as far as they are concerned, their success is measured in how much they are able to give back -- to help others while they do what they each do well. For Dr. V, that is performing cataract surgeries. For David, it is creating the tools to allow Dr. V to perform those surgeries.

Each of us needs to reflect on what we're doing. There's nothing wrong with being a successful business person – both Dr. V and David Green are! There's nothing wrong with making money – as long as you are not a slave to it! There is a saying that money makes a terrible master but a wonderful servant.

Success is not measured by wealth – it is measured by contribution.

I challenge you to do some measuring. Measure your motives, your contribution and your definition of success today against Dr. V and David's. Compared to them, how do you measure up? If you like what you see – awesome! Keep up the great work! If you don't like what you see, decide what needs to change, and then start taking steps to make those changes.

I know you can do whatever you set your mind to -- you are special and valued!



**How can I be useful,
Of what service can I be?
There is something inside all of us,
What's inside of ME?**

81) Start a school website for students to write on school issues and needs.

82) Design and maintain a website for your neighborhood to share news and events. This can be a great way to connect people and create a true community around you!

83) Welcome new neighbors with a home-cooked meal delivered to their door on the day they move in. Include a basket with coupons for local restaurants, activities, etc.



84) Organize a Sports Day for community children. Mix competition and just plain fun that doesn't have winning as the objective. Everyone should be able to enjoy sports – no matter what their skill level is.

85) Build Bird Houses and put them everywhere you can. Inviting extra birds to your community is always a good thing.

86) Plant trees everywhere you can!



87) Take old magazines to a Senior Center or Shelter. If you're a kid, take your magazines and Comic Books to your local doctor's office or dental office. Kids waiting to see the doctor will have something interesting to read.

88) In many areas you can't recycle plastic bags with your regular recycling. Go around your neighborhood once a month to collect the plastic bags, then take them to a local grocery store that recycles them.

89) Choose to buy products that are packaged in recyclable containers.

90) Start a compost pile at your school, and then use it to provide rich soil for a school garden that will create food for the hungry in your community. Think how much food and gardening/yard waste can be composted to make a difference!

World Changer Story

Hannah, 15, rode with her dad many afternoons...cruising down Atlanta, Georgia's highways toward home.

But home was not your typical 1200 square foot home. It is a 3 story, 5 bedrooms, 4 baths, 1912 restored luxury mansion with a working elevator, 8 fireplaces 6,500 square foot \$1.8 MILLION home. Her friends call it the "WOW" home.

Something stirred within Hannah this day. Living in the WOW home, she obviously wanted for nothing. But she was growing up and the startling differences between people's lives had made an impression on her.

Hannah is a volunteer at a food bank and had been working at a restaurant that serves homeless people since she was in the 5th grade. The plight of the hungry and homeless was on her mind as she rode home.



As their car approached an intersection where the homeless men commonly begged for food, Hannah saw a Mercedes Benz stopped while waiting for the traffic light. Next to the high priced car sat a homeless man. Something broke inside her and her comment went something like this:

"Dad, if that man didn't drive such an expensive

car, that other man could have a meal."

Because of that observation, the Salwen family is now a whole group of volunteers: Dad, Kevin, is a former Wall Street Journal writer who now sits on the board of the Atlanta Habitat for Humanity; mother Joan is a teacher, and younger brother Joseph works at the same food bank as Hannah and has since he was 8 years old!

You'll never believe what they decided to do after leaving that intersection. After several family meetings, the Salwen's decided to put their WOW home on the market and donate 1/2 of the sale price to a charity that serves the needy and hungry. The other half of the money would buy a new home that was **half** as big as the WOW home.

At first, the kids talked about selling a car, or giving away things, but then *"we stopped and paused and thought about what are the things in the world that could really make a difference, a little bit of difference in the world."* And then Mom suggested selling her dream home, just to see if the kids were serious about "wanting" to do something...not just talk about doing something.

They are serious!! The family has the house for sale, and it has been for over a year. They've already bought their "other" home and are waiting for theirs to sell. There aren't many buyers out there for a million dollar property.

The Salwen's haven't told many people about their plan...their real estate agent didn't even know until the house had been on the market for nearly a year! They aren't in it for the publicity. They don't want recognition. They are out to simply "redefine" the American dream...by half.

"We as Americans have so much," says Kevin. "We love the concept of half. We are going from a house that's 6,000 square feet to a house that's half the size, and we're giving away half the money...And we do think everyone can do something if they think through half!"

After much research, the family chose *"The Hunger Project" in Ghana, Africa which "empowers people to meet their basic needs...The people of 10-15 surrounding villages work together to create and run their own programs in health, education, nutrition, food production, food processing, adult literacy and microfinance."*

The organization says the \$800,000 dollar will enable *"...more than 30 villages to meet all of their basic needs on a sustainable basis. They will*

be able to grow enough food, to build clinics and schools, and the villagers will be doing the lion's share of the work."

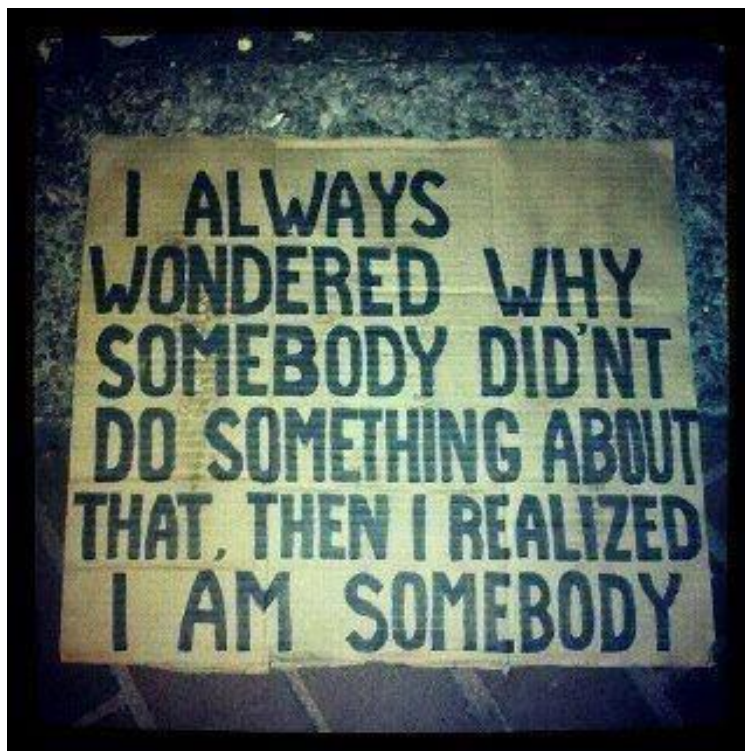
I am way impressed with these folks! I bet you are too. Now, I don't have a million dollar home to sell, do you? But I do have ways to make a difference.

I can share time, donate some unnecessary thing, reconsider buying something I want, write a note of thanks, visit a nursery or nursing home, volunteer at a shelter or food bank.

I can try to half my lifestyle! Just think if we each halved our living expenses...it would add up quickly to a whole lot!

Today I encourage you to make smart decisions about where you spend your money and your time. Be like Hannah and look for ways to not just talk about doing something to make a difference, but actually take the first steps toward actively doing it.

I know you can start making a difference today...



91) Are you good with computers and fixing things? How about taking discarded computer parts and creating “new” machines that you can give away to people?



92) Is there someone in your community or family that is well-known and loved? Do a special project to let them know...

- Put together a list of questions:
 - When, where and why did you get to know this person?
 - What famous person do they remind you of?
 - What are your favorite memories of this person?
 - Etc.
- Send a copy to as many people who know this person as possible.
- Gather all the questionnaires and bind them in a book. You’ll probably receive pictures and other mementos. Include them.

Your gift will be a treasure for the rest of their lives!

93) Start your own “50 – 4 – 50 Campaign” when you turn 50 years old. Instead of just claiming gifts, walk one mile for each of your 50 years and ask friends to pledge money in lieu of a birthday gift. Then send your money to a cause dear to you.



If you're not a walker it could be biking 50 miles, swimming 50 laps, writing 50 letters to soldiers – whatever your interest is... turn it into a way to make a difference!

94) Give Grocery Gift Certificates to the Homeless in your area. Talk to your local grocery store and have them create Gift Certificates that exclude alcohol. Then hand them out to Homeless people asking for help.

95) Create a “Birthday Jar” or a “You’re Special Jar”.

Too often it's easy to notice the things we DON'T like about people – the things that irritate us. How about taking the time to come up with all the reasons we are THANKFUL for the people in our lives?

Here are some ideas:

- You fix things around the house before I even ask
- You help your little brother get dressed in the morning
- You always have a smile for people
- You keep in shape



Come up with as many as you can – trying for 365 if it's a Birthday Jar – but any amount will make a difference to the person receiving it. Print out the whole list, cut out each entry, and put them in a big jar. Whether you use an old mayonnaise jar or a beautiful ceramic one, it's what inside that will change the world for the person receiving it.

96) Do you play a musical instrument? Offer to teach someone. Maybe it's a kid who can't afford lessons on their own. Maybe it's someone who is housebound. Maybe it's an elderly person who has always dreamed of playing the piano – or some other instrument.



97) Put a notice in your local paper or get your local radio to help you with an “Instrument Drive”. Trust me; there are a lot of musical instruments lying around in people’s homes that can make a huge difference for the people I listed above.

98) Make turbans for women undergoing chemotherapy who have lost their hair. If you like to sew, or are willing to learn something simple to help others, this is for you. Visit the following webpage for a simple pattern and easy to follow instructions:
www.sewing.org/enthusiast/html/ec_turban.html

99) Go to www.MakeAChildSmile.org. This wonderful organization features three new children each month that are fighting illness. They tell you about the child, then list a PO box you can send a card or small gift to. They’ll also send updates as the parents send them in. For the price of a card and a stamp you can make a huge difference to a child fighting for their life!



World Changer Story

"You'll have to step to the back now."

"Step to the back."

"Step to the back of the bus."

"Step back now!"

"I am too tired," Rosa gently and meekly explained. "I don't think I can."

This conflict between a white bus driver and Rosa Parks, (an African American woman) started the famous Montgomery Bus Boycott that lasted 381 days and catapulted American culture into the civil rights war.

A young Martin Luther King, Jr. found himself at the helm of it all. Only 26 years of age, he was a young energetic man of high ideals. As a pastor of a church, he dreamed of a society where all people could freely live without restrictions of color or race. He saw people for just who they were . . . people. He believed in the goodness of people even if he realized their ability to do evil.

"Dr. King, how are we going to combat the violence?" the question came at him again and again.

Frustrated with the effort to give black Americans the right to vote and to be treated equally in the eyes of the law, many people wanted Dr King and his proponents to be more aggressive. Yet Dr. King's answer always came back the same: *"With peace."*

Dr. King was instrumental in organizing and leading black churches in non-violent protests to advance civil rights reform. He was deeply influenced by the philosophies of nonviolent civil disobedience used so successfully in India by Mohandas "Mahatma" Gandhi.



King also organized and led marches for blacks' right to vote, desegregation, labor rights and other basic civil rights. Most of these rights were successfully enacted into U.S. law with the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

One of the marches that he helped organize was the influential 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom which ended up with more than a quarter million people of diverse ethnicities sprawling from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial onto the National Mall and around the reflecting pool in Washington, D.C.

At the time it was the largest gathering of protesters in Washington's history!!

King's "*I Have A Dream*" speech electrified the crowd. It is considered along with Abraham Lincoln's *Gettysburg Address*, as one of the finest speeches in U.S. history.

Dr. King may be no more than a distant figure in the history books yet I'm sure you have been influenced by someone. Someone with whom you resonated at your deepest core of being -- someone who stirred your passion -- someone whose memory still quickens your pulse and imagination.

But I want you to consider that "heroes" aren't always world-shakers like Dr. King.

Each of us has heroes in our personal sphere of influence -- a parent, a teacher, a religious leader, a neighbor, a friend.

Do you realize that YOU may be a hero to someone? There is someone looking to you for the same inspiration. It doesn't matter that you aren't a TV or public personality. It may be a child you care for, a person you're mentoring, a friend you love and support, or maybe someone you've never met but who is watching you from a distance.

Do you realize that how you live makes a difference?! Dr. King captured the belief that all people are created equal and he believed in the integrity of all people. He would have believed in you. He would have fought for you, too. He lived a life that showed his beliefs.

You can be like Dr. King and live out your beliefs. I know that today we need people who live what they believe.



100) Locks of Love is a wonderful way you can make a difference if you have long hair, or if you are willing to grow your hair. Go to www.locksoflove.org. This amazing organization provides prosthetic hair pieces to kids 18 years old and younger who have long term hair loss due to a medical condition. Visit their website to find out what a huge difference your hair can make!

BONUS IDEAS:

101) RUN to your computer and check out www.VolunteerMatch.org. But beware... once you have been here you will never have an excuse for not volunteering. ☺ VolunteerMatch is a nonprofit organization with a mission to help everyone find a great place to volunteer, and offers a



variety of online services to support a community of nonprofit, volunteer and business leaders committed to civic engagement. Interested volunteers can enter their ZIP code on the VolunteerMatch home page to quickly find local volunteer opportunities posted by nonprofit organizations throughout the United States.

103) Become a Bone Marrow Donor. So many kids and adults die before a match can be made. There are many ways you can help. Perhaps the ultimate way to make a difference is to save a life. As an individual you can:



- Register to be a Donor
 - Donate your baby's umbilical cord blood at birth.
 - Make a financial contribution through the Marrow Foundation
 - Tell friends and family about the need for stem cell donors
 - Donate Frequent Flyer Miles to help patients travel to receive treatment
 - Volunteer your time at your local donor center or recruitment group.
 - Donate other blood products, such as whole blood or platelets.
- (All transplant patients will need other blood products during their treatment.)

For more information go to: www.marrow.org

* * * * *

So here you have them... 101+ Ways to Make a Difference. Let me remind you that all the good ideas and information in the world will not matter at all if you don't take ACTION!

Go through this book carefully. Make a list of the ways you can Make a Difference. Decide what you are going to do on a Daily, Weekly and Monthly basis. Come up with a plan of how you can help as an individual; how your family can help; or how you can join with others at work or in your community to make a difference.

This book is my gift to you because I want to empower you to make a difference through your actions.

THANK YOU for wanting to BE the Difference in your World!

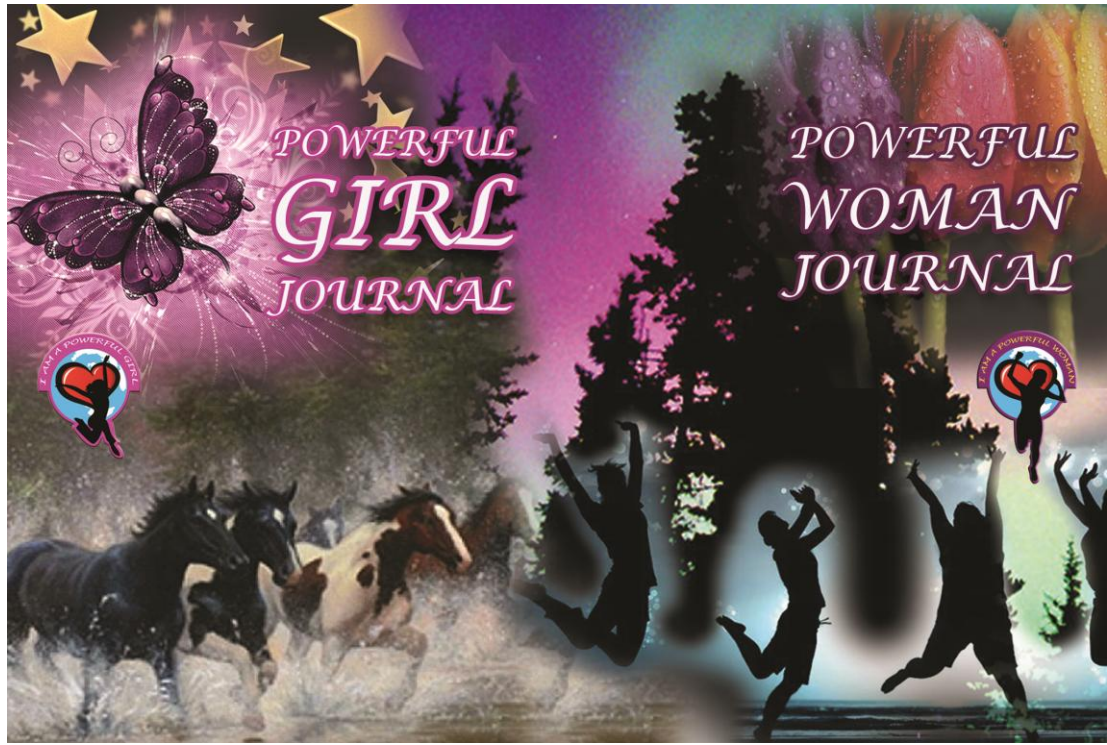
Blessings,

Ginny Dye

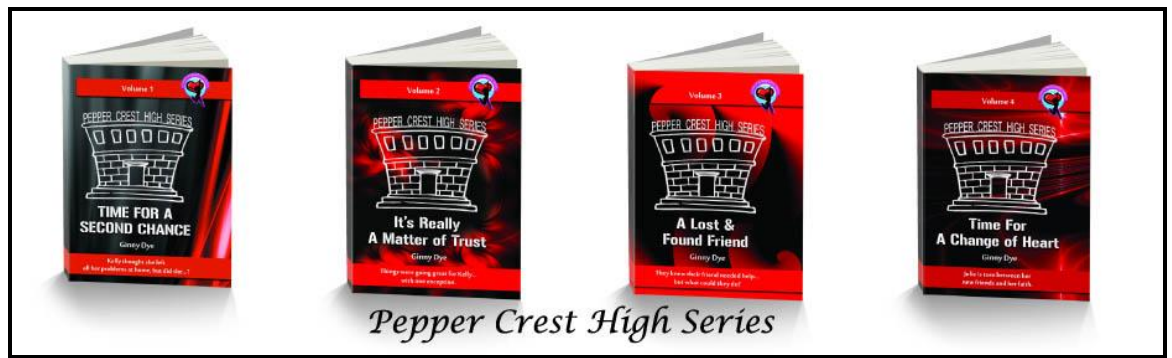
Other Books by Ginny Dye



www.DiscoverTheBestSellingBregdanChronicles.com



www.PowerfulGirlJournals.com
www.PowerfulWomanJournals.com



www.PepperCrestHigh.com



www.WhenIDreamBooks.com