

Scripture Reading: John 14:6

*Jesus saith unto him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me".*

When our son was a sophomore in college, he had a series of events that dragged him down and almost overpowered him. His roommate left the dorm, and no one came to take his place. He was not connected with any groups or campus organizations. His grades were falling. He became lonely and depressed. He abused drugs and alcohol. In short, he was about as low as you could go at 19 years old.

I went to the campus and talked to faculty, counselors, and various groups to see if I could find him any help. God intervened and help came in the form of the Clemson Presbyterian Student Association. They gathered around him and invited him into their flock. From that outpouring of love and fellowship came redemption and lifelong friendships. At last, he had a strong support group.

From then on, his grades improved, he was happy and had a purpose in his life. Upon graduation, he became a permanent volunteer at The Open Door in Atlanta which was (and still is) a shelter and kitchen for the homeless. This led him to New York City where he worked with a similar organization ministering to the needs of the homeless in downtown Manhattan and the Central Park area. After two years with the homeless of NYC, he enrolled in Union Theological Seminary where he earned a master's degree in Theology.

After graduation, he did not pursue the Ministry but tried his hand at a short-lived grant writing career for non-profits. That did not work out, but his need for a steady paycheck paid off and led him to a successful career in Facilities Management. Today he manages 50+ professionals responsible for running and maintaining the facilities of a private school with 1500 students in downtown San Francisco.

*Prayer:* Please LORD direct the steps of the godly and delight in every detail of their lives. Amen - *Inspired by Psalm 37:23.*

-Submitted by Andy Harvill for the Twenty-second Reading of Lent.