



Tonight I wept with a drunk man as he explained that his wife died in January and how he's beside himself trying to raise their 6 year old daughter alone. I talked to Paul and his wife who have decided to get a divorce because they are all out of answers to their issues. I counseled with Henry and his wife who lost their jobs and home and now they are living in the basement at a friends house across the street from where we had the block party.

I talked to at least a dozen people who expressed sincere joy and appreciation that we put on such an event in their neighborhood. I talked to at least 2 families that asked us to please come back and do it again because it was a positive thing for the neighborhood. We loved on young people tonight who had more piercings and tatoos showing on their bodies than skin. I could go on and on about the people we touched tonight with the love of Christ by going into their neighborhood and having an event just for them. I am pretty sure that none of the people we met and ministered to tonight would ever come to one of our Sunday morning worship services.

I told my church on Sunday that at best, us having a block party may be a weak attempt at being "incarnational", but I tell you tonight, after interacting with so many hurting people in our neighborhood, I think Jesus really did manifest His presence in the park. He brought "grace and truth" to bear in some people's lives tonight without a doubt. We could do "church" for 100 years of Sundays and might not touch as many real life needs as we did tonight at our block party. It may be a little "old school" but you will never convince me it is not a viable means of communicating the love of Christ to a community of people.

Its been an incredible day!

Ken