

Partners With Purpose 2009 Annual Walk-a-thon

People are often unreasonable, irrational, and self-centered.

Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives.

Be kind anyway.

If you are successful, you will win some unfaithful friends and some genuine enemies.

Succeed anyway.

If you are honest and sincere people may deceive you.

Be honest and sincere anyway.

What you spend years creating, others could destroy overnight.

Create anyway.

If you find serenity and happiness, some may be jealous.

Be happy anyway.

The good you do today, will often be forgotten.

Do good anyway.

Give the best you have, and it will never be enough.

Give your best anyway.

In the final analysis, it is between you and God.

It was never between you and them anyway.

Version credited to Mother Teresa

I'm sure many of you are wondering **WHY** I am bringing up **MOTHER TERESA** in our walk-a-thon announcement? Well, like many of us who are filled with compassion for the poor, even she struggled at times with the challenge of motivating others to help her meet their needs. Mother Teresa had her moments when, unlike the tender words of inspired wonder that flowed out of her in the poem above, she dealt out some curt, to the point, blunt (and equally inspired) wisdom as in the following story.

"I was asked why I did not give a rod with which to fish in the hands of the poor, rather than give the fish itself as this makes them remain poor, so I told them: The people whom we pick up are not able to stand with a rod. So today, I will give them fish and when they are able to stand, then I shall send them to you and you can give them the rod. That is your job. Let me do my work today"

Mother Teresa

Her simple point was *"do what you feel called to do, and even if you don't feel called to 'do the doing I'm doing' you need to get out there and do what it is you do feel needs to be done."* Jesus, (who also could be just as tender or tart when dealing out wisdom) let us know very clearly in Matthew 25: 31-46 that no one is exempt from taking care of the poor in some fashion.

P.W.P. is as clear as a bell as to what we are 'called' to do to help the poor in Haiti today – Literacy. We also know there are many of you who are **EQUALLY** 'called' to help us do that in some way. One of the opportunities to bless the poor that comes your way each year is by participating in our annual walk-a-thon. Walking or sponsoring a walker **EQUALLY** helps P.W.P. to raise the funds necessary to keep our programs going.

A Haitian educator inspired and ensured us with the following words that providing literacy is a primary way to bless the poor. *"To listen is to invite someone, another person access to our heart and mind. Likewise, literacy gives a person access to the heart and mind of society. People who are illiterate often complain that they feel deaf and dumb and excluded from society. Illiteracy also excludes people from society because of how it reinforces economic exclusion. Illiteracy and poverty are like brick and mortar that together form the wall that keeps millions of Haitians on the outside."*

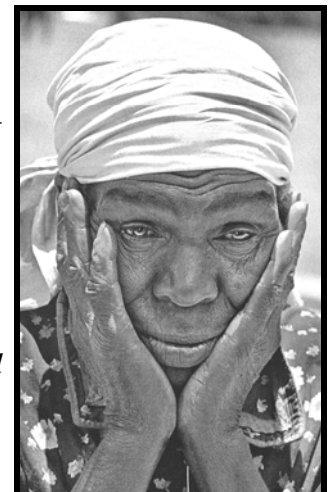
We ask you to prayerfully consider investing in the P.W.P. programs in Haiti by becoming a walker or sponsor on September 26, 2009. Together, with everyone's participation, we will be able to deliver the fish, the rod, the line, the bobber and whatever else it takes to meet the needs of poor God has mandated us to serve in Haiti. Pledge form attached.

"WHY MOTHER TERESA?"



Concerned for the poor.

**"BECAUSE GOD SEES
OUR PURPOSES AS
EQUAL"**



**Concerned because she
is poor.**