

## How I Am Going to Help

For starters, I will help you get in touch with people who care about you. Contact me here at Herald of Truth and I will connect you with people who want to help you with physical, emotional, and spiritual needs. You can also contact the nearest church of Christ. I know they will do what they can to meet your needs.

I commit to pray for you. Our ministry has prayer partners all over the world who will pray for you by name. Simply contact us with your name and any requests, and we will hold you up in prayer.

If you would like to know more about Jesus, please give us a chance to share our faith with you. Email me at: [sridgell@heraldoftruth.org](mailto:sridgell@heraldoftruth.org) or visit our web site [www.hopeforlife.org](http://www.hopeforlife.org).

We believe that the Bible offers comfort and the words of life. We will send you a Bible at no charge and with no obligation. Just ask for one.

As one of God's children in this world, my heart hurts for you. Know that God loves you, and so do His people in this world.

**Steve Ridgell**  
**Director of Ministry**  
**Herald of Truth**



**HERALD OF TRUTH**  
His Word for His World. Every Day.

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**I DON'T HAVE  
ALL THE  
ANSWERS...**

*Steve Ridgell*

## ...BUT I KNOW WHO DOES!

Where do you even begin when life is ripped apart, when all the things you thought mattered are gone in an instant, when you realize that you have no control over things? Hurricane Katrina has destroyed cities, houses, lives, and ripped open our hearts. She did not care about your money, your plans, your status, your age, or your talent. She really did not care about the time, money, and effort you put into your home, nor was she concerned about how together - or not together - your life was. Tsunamis, terrorist attacks, floods, war...they all change everything in an instant.

I have come to realize that there is only one thing that I can control: I have a choice where to put my trust. And we have learned it does not help to put our trust in possessions, or money, or even ourselves. How many of us have now realized just how hopeless we were to influence events surrounding Katrina. Levees breaking, and then overflowing...homes washing away...shelter sites having to be evacuated...best laid plans failing...and the helpless feeling of not even knowing what was coming next.

## I CHOOSE TO TRUST GOD

If you are expecting me to give you the answer to all the questions you are asking right now, then you are probably looking in the wrong direction. I don't have all the answers. I think recent events have established that none of us are going to have all the answers.

*“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares the Lord. ‘As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.’”*

- Isaiah 55:8-9

If there is ever a time to realize that I need to trust someone greater than any of us, it is the aftermath of a disaster like Hurricane Katrina. So I choose to trust in God. I know the questions that must be going through your mind about God and disaster; in fact, I've asked some of those same questions myself. I can tell you that God created the world, and He created you. I can tell you that He loves you, and longs for you to love Him. And I can tell you He wants you to live forever with Him. However, I am not sure I know how to explain everything about how God operates. If I could I'd be God...and I am not. And that's the whole point. God asks us to trust Him to make sense out of this life.

*“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.” - Proverbs 3:5-6*

When everything in life has been turned upside down, I trust in the only one who can make sense of it all. But, it is fair to ask why I am so sure He is the answer. It is because I have seen Him at work. I have seen God do marvelous things in my life and in my family's life. I have seen Him do wonderful things after the Oklahoma City bombings, after 9/11, after the Tsunami, and in the lives of the countless people we have been able to minister to in crisis.

And because I believe in God...

## I BELIEVE IN HIS SON

*“Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword: As it is written: ‘For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.’ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”*

- Romans 8: 35-39

This verse sounds like what many of you may be facing now. God promises that none of these things can separate you from His love shown to us in Jesus.

I know that is the one thing in life that no one or no thing can take away from me. And the love of God in Christ is the one thing I know will last forever. No matter what.

*“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.”*

- John 14:27

Jesus can heal your broken heart. I have seen it. And he wants to heal yours. I told you I don't have all the answers, and I am not even sure I can understand all the questions. But I believe Jesus does offer healing and hope. He has kept those promises in my life, and He can do the same for you.