

MATTHEW BARNETT

DREAM CENTER • P.O. BOX 26629 • LOS ANGELES, CA 90026



Angelica didn't have to imagine the pain...
it was part of her life every day...but now...

(Name)
(Address)
(City, ST ZIP)
(Barcode)



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MATTHEW BARNETT

March 2009

Dear Friend,

With Easter coming up in just a few weeks, I've been thinking a lot about the joy of that resurrection morning...and the sorrow and pain the disciples experienced following the crucifixion. There was rejoicing on Easter, but there was hopelessness and grief on Good Friday.

Angelica doesn't have to imagine pain, sorrow and grief. She knows what it's like to live with the pain of hopelessness...and for a lot longer than three days.

Over ten years ago, her husband deserted his family, leaving Angelica to try to hold things together and provide for the needs of their three small children. Raising Valerie, Omar and Edgar on her own was overwhelming. Just keeping food on the table and clothes on the backs of three growing young people took more than she could make in the part time jobs she could find.

Angelica struggled from day to day to comfort her children and meet their needs. In her desperation, she borrowed money from friends just so she wouldn't hear her children crying from hunger any more. After such a long time struggling and being alone, she was buried in misery.

She knew the pain of Good Friday all too well.

But in the middle of her hardship and pain, she experienced a life-transforming resurrection. One day a team of volunteers from the Dream Center Foster Care Ministry showed up at her door with a glorious hope.

Bags filled with food and clothing, school supplies, toiletries and more showed up at her front door...and everything started to change. "It was as if all the cries had been heard and this miracle appeared to take away so much hurt," Angelica said. "There was finally something more, like God had come down and given me a new peace I hadn't had in years."

This Easter, Angelica and her children are celebrating the resurrection and the hope of eternal life in Jesus Christ...and they're celebrating the new life they found through the help of the Dream Center.

Once there was only pain and loneliness for Valerie, Omar and Edgar, but now there is hope for the future. Before, they wondered if anyone cared...now they know that God loves them—because people from the Dream Center came to show them

(over, please)

that love right where they live.

Jesus came and gave His life and rose from the dead to bring new life to thousands of people like Angelica and her family. That message is why the Dream Center exists.

But we can only continue outreaches like the Foster Care Ministry if our friends like you step up and make it possible. Everything we do for others springs out of the generous investments you make, not just in our ministry but in the lives of so many people in need.

I'm asking you today to send a special gift for the Dream Center so that we can share the hope and joy of Easter with people living in the pain of Good Friday.

With your help we can transform hurt into happiness and despair into hope.

There's no better way to say it than the way Angelica did: "I have people that love me, now...and something deeper than that because God loves me too."

Your gift today will share the love of God with thousands more just like her! Please help us celebrate Easter as a true season of hope with your support.

Your partner for hope,

Pasta Matthew Barnett

Matthew Barnett

P.S. God's love for us was shown in the gift of His Son, Jesus. Our love for Him is shown when we give to "the least of these." I can't think of a better, more appropriate way for us to celebrate Easter than by sharing the love and hope of the resurrection with our world. Please rush your gift for the Dream Center today.

Replacing the Pain of Good Friday with the Hope and Joy of the Resurrection

Many people in our country are suffering today. Their hopes have been shattered by job loss, homelessness, hunger and pain...but together we can change that. Hundreds of volunteers spread out from the Dream Center day after day, bringing the message of Easter to hurting hearts and changing that pain into joy. Your support makes it possible for us to continue this vital ministry.



RETURN BOTTOM PORTION WITH YOUR GIFT IN THE ENVELOPE PROVIDED.



Yes, **Pastor Matthew,** I want this Easter to truly be a season of hope and joy. Enclosed is my gift for the Dream Center of:

\$X \$Y \$ _____

(acct#) 9031

**FOR CREDIT CARD PAYMENT,
COMPLETE OTHER SIDE.**



*Please make check or money order payable to the **Dream Center** and mail to:
P.O. Box 26629
Los Angeles, CA 90026*

All gifts, less the value of any items received, are tax deductible as allowed by law. Upon receipt of sufficient funds for a specific project, support will be used for an equally important project.

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FILL OUT THIS PORTION ONLY IF YOU ARE USING A BANK/CREDIT CARD.

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Please charge the amount above to my: VISA MasterCard Discover AmEx

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Signature _____

Phone (_____) _____



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Spreading Hope and Joy at Easter and All Year Round



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