

Dear insert name,

There is a particularly dangerous apartment complex down the road from our house. In addition to property crime, there are stray bullets from drive-by shootings and police shootouts in the complex. When I was leaving after a visit, the street was blocked off by police cars and caution tape. A man had been stabbed while I was sitting in a friend's apartment. On a different day, a ministry friend recognized our car parked outside the complex. The friend called Chelsea and told her she shouldn't be there, and that she needed to leave ASAP!

Last Christmas, we did an outreach to the whole complex to let them know about A Simple House. We delivered gift bags and left refrigerator magnets with our phone number for assistance. We knocked on over 100 doors.

Behind one of those doors was Dan, a skinny guy in his early thirties with long dreadlocks. Our first meeting was short and simple. We gave him a gift, had a conversation for a couple of minutes, and prayed together. Dan was living with his girlfriend and their daughter, Danielle. Danielle only weighed a pound when she was born and has numerous medical issues. Despite being two years old, she had just come home from the hospital for the first time a few weeks before. We mainly help single moms and grandmas, so I was excited that a young dad was open to talking with us.

I followed up with Dan in early February. He opened the door, completely dejected and told us that his girlfriend had died earlier that day. He invited us into his apartment. The walls were totally bare, and the furniture was sparse. There were a couple of small couches and a shaky dining room set. There were also boxes of medical supplies for Danielle and a few pieces of medical equipment. We prayed together, and Dan started telling us about his girlfriend: how he was drawn to her by her caring nature, and how she could light up a room with her smile and big cheeks. Dan started sobbing. My partner put a box of medical gauze on the table in front of him to use as tissues. I clutched the crucifix around my neck, praying for the right words of consolation. Nothing came to me. The next minutes were long and tense. Dan would occasionally break the silence and, through tears, share a story about his girlfriend. We just sat with him, listening. Once he had calmed down, he told us "Thank you for sharing my pain."

In subsequent visits, he told us more about caring for his daughter. She has several speech and physical therapy appointments throughout the week. She has a G-tube going directly into her stomach for medicine and food. She needs to be fed via the G-tube overnight and to be checked on regularly. Taking care of Danielle is a day and night job. Dan does not have family support. Briefly, Dan got help from nurses, but they would regularly fall asleep on the job and even offered Dan money if he would allow



Visiting Dan and Danielle in their apartment.

them to skip work. He decided he would take care of his daughter by himself. He used to work security and stock shelves at Walmart, but he won't be making any money until his daughter is old enough for daycare.

We started helping Dan by bringing him diapers, wipes, and PediaSure. We also brought casseroles, which he especially appreciated. He doesn't know how to cook much beyond frozen pizza. His girlfriend used to make all their food. Dan wanted to learn how to cook because his daughter was supposed to start eating mashed potatoes. His kitchen



was also bare; he uses his daughter's old socks from the hospital as rags to clean dishes. We stocked Dan's kitchen with plates, bowls, silverware, and other necessities. And when we cook with Dan, we bring everything that we need and leave him with the necessary kitchen equipment to cook things again on his own. So far, we've taught Dan how to make mashed potatoes, how to make spaghetti sauce and boil pasta. We even had an event where we taught him how to make his

favorite food, pizza. Dan always beams with pride when we finish cooking something. He broadcasted our pizza visit on Instagram Live to introduce us to his family and show off his new culinary skills.

Dan recently learned that he is being kicked out of his apartment. The lease has his girlfriend's name on it. A case worker is trying to find Dan a new place but told him it would be "a process." Dan is trying to be a good father, but he doesn't have the resources to do it on his own. We want to help Dan in a major way. We are going to seriously talk with him about what he wants his life to look like six months from now, and how we can help him bring that about. Maybe that will mean buying him a car, or helping with the security deposit on a new apartment.

Please pray that Dan finds a safer place for him and his daughter to live. And pray that our relationship makes it easier for Dan to be a good dad and brings him closer to Christ.

Sincerely,

Timothy Casey with missionaries Nathan Alexander, Chelsea Crosby, Clark Massey, Clare Merante, Kalani Moberg, Aidan Morrissey, John Tirador, and Margo Wernel

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REVIVAL 2022



We just welcomed the new missionary class of 2022. Kalani, John, Aidan, and Nathan joined A Simple House for their first missionary year. They spent two weeks in KC for training. The main purpose of our training is to get people into the right mindset for true evangelization. Instead of apologetics or proselytizing, we are looking to deliver the good news and the truth that changes someone's orientation towards God. Veteran missionaries say they get more out of the training their second year. It takes a year for someone to let go of their prior conceptions and start digging into the new mindset. Please pray for our missionaries.



