

I'm sure that you have seen that sign somewhere, sometime. It can be rather helpful if you have a project that is just a tad bit more than you can tackle alone.



That's been my situation this past week. Overgrown flower beds needing strong determined hands to pull weeds... instead of tender, loving care. My help just happened to need some work and I needed a worker. What really amazed me was that she was so in love with flowers and yard work. So not only did I get a "helper", but I got a talented, happy one.

Several years ago I got some much needed help... from strangers. I had been to Arkansas with three of my grandchildren for a family reunion. On our return trip, we had a flat. I was almost in a panic. Here we were miles from any town and the responsibility of these three precious souls weighed heavy on my heart. The oldest grandson was determined to help his "Nana". I don't think he was even twelve years old at the time. Well, he and I got out of the car, (a Ford SUV), and immediately there was a problem. I had no idea where the spare tire was. He did locate it, but was having a major problem getting it out of the storage area. That's when a pickup with two gentlemen pulled up behind us and they hopped out and got things going so speedily that we were on the road in short time. All thanks to their help.

Another incident at a time that I needed help was when I had been doing some grocery shopping. Got the shopping done, the car loaded, and ready to go. But upon turning the key in the ignition, the only response was a "click" and not a motor running. The only positive thought that I could think of was: "Sure glad I didn't buy any ice cream." However, a quick call to my son, and he was "Johnny on the spot!" He got out those jumper cables and got me rolling again. He also took that extra step and made sure that a new battery was in my car before I left the house again. My hero and my helper!

Of course, not all "help wanted" is limited to projects. What about people? Sometimes they need help not in the physical way, but in dealing with attitudes and emotions. The help they need is a friend to share their pain, hear their troubles, and give comfort to them. Sometimes you don't even have to say a word. Listen if they speak. Or perhaps, just be there, even if they don't share a word. Your presence can be the cure for their loneliness.

We especially need help when experiencing a loss of family or friend. In addition to any comfort we can give, it's absolutely the time to keep those who have experienced a loss in your prayers.

The best, most assured helper that I know of is our loving Savior, Jesus. He's always there even before you need Him. His eyes are always on us, and He knows before we do when a helper needs to be handy. He has blessed me so many times in sickness, in loss, in sorrow. And as hard as some of those trials were, He got me through every one of them. I've never had to dial 911 in an emergency, but many is the time I've sent my "911" up in prayer to the best helper I know. Thank you, Jesus, for always being there.

*Jackie Abbott*