

“I HOPE THAT WE WELCOME AND LOVE ALL OF GOD’S CHILDREN, INCLUDING THOSE WHO MIGHT DRESS, LOOK, SPEAK, OR JUST DO THINGS DIFFERENTLY.”

President Dieter F. Uchtdorf, Second Counselor in the First Presidency “You Are My Hands,” *Ensign*, May 2010, 68.

MOVING MOUNTAINS OF MUD



This was not your typical Sunday morning. On this particular February Sunday, members were encouraged to gather after sacrament meeting, and some leaders even ended services early, sending volunteers to help their neighbors. Over 150 youth and adults from the La Crescenta California Stake gathered with shovels, wheelbarrows, and their bright yellow Mormon Helping Hands vests to help move mud. Torrential rains, combined with mountains of earth exposed because of burned-off vegetation, had sent rivers of mud down residential neighborhoods in their area. Homes had three to four feet of mud surrounding them and several feet of mud inside as well.

Volunteers cleared pathways through the mud so that homeowners could get to their belongings and salvage what had not been destroyed. Katie Callister, a Mia Maid in the La Canada Second Ward, said, “I really wanted to help shovel the mud out of the damaged homes, but when I got there I saw the terrible destruction. Seeing the residents’ faces turn from devastation to gratitude was such an amazing experience. It made me feel so happy to know that I was helping someone so much and at the same time serving the Lord.”

Tons of mud, rock, debris, and people’s belongings were moved that day by the youth and adults wearing those yellow vests. Many residents commented that they were touched that teenagers would give up their Sunday afternoon to help strangers.



MY FAVORITE SCRIPTURE

2 Nephi 2:13

This scripture says that there really is a God. It says that if there were no sin, then there would be no righteousness. There must be opposition. It is a scripture that testifies of God.

Maria H., 15, Hesse, Germany

Tell us about your favorite scripture in one or two sentences. Go to newera.lds.org and click on Submit Your Material.

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