

January 9, 2022

Coming Into God's Presence

Isaiah 6:1-13

'Tis the season for New Year's resolutions. By this time, you're just over a week into that new exercise regime or diet plan. You're sleeping more and keeping things tidy. It's the time of year when we look at the problems in our lives and resolve to make them better. This year, I challenge you to look outside of your own home and seek out problems in your community (and beyond) that you can help solve.

That's exactly what Leah Lizarondo did when she founded 412 Food Rescue, the largest volunteer-led food transport network in a single urban region. When Leah founded the organization, she didn't aim low. She was determined to "solve three problems at once—food waste, food insecurity, and the climate crisis."¹ Since 2015, 412 Food Rescue has diverted millions of pounds of food from landfills into the homes and bellies of those who need it most, all but solving the issue of food insecurity in Pittsburgh's public housing communities.²

Leah Lizarondo saw an urgent need in her local community (food insecurity) and a growing issue in the world at large (the climate crisis aggravated by greenhouse gases from food waste), and she stepped up to help solve them. She didn't wait for someone else to lead the way. She said, "Send me." Our Key Verse this week is "Then I heard the LORD's voice saying, 'Whom should I send, and who will go for us?' I said, 'I'm here; send me' " (Isaiah 6:8). There are problems suited for your specific set of skills, just waiting to be solved. Will you answer the call?

1. What are your New Year's resolutions for 2022?
2. Think of a need or a problem in your local community that you can help with this year. Describe it.
3. Has God called you to action now or in the past? How did you respond?

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¹From goodnewsnetwork.org/pittsburgh-food-rescue-app-diverts-20mil-lbs-of-surplus-into-17m-meals/.

² <https://412foodrescue.org/about-us/our-impact/>