

The Blessings of Serving as a Stephen Minister

Since 1975, more than 600,000 Christian men and woman from all walks of life have trained and served as Stephen Ministers. Most became a Stephen Minister as a way to help others who were hurting—but they quickly discovered that God blesses them in amazing ways in return.

"Stephen Minister training has helped me grow—personally, spiritually, and professionally. I use my Stephen Ministry skills all the time with patients, peers, and physicians. Stephen Ministry has made a big difference in my own life and in my congregation."

Anna, Registered Nurse Hendersonville, Tennessee

"Stephen Minister training taught me not just how to be a caregiver, but how to live life in a new way—being Christ to other people. It's an awesome blessing to be used by God to bring hope and healing to someone else. I am humbled."

> Mike, Carpenter Kennesaw, Georgia

"Stephen Ministry has enhanced every relationship I have. Now I can listen and be there without feeling like I must rush in and try to fix things. (My 15-year-old finds this a great blessing!) I'm much more at peace in difficult situations because I realize that it's not me—but Christ within me—who does the work."

Susan, Licensed Massage Therapist Saint Petersburg, Florida "The assertiveness skills I learned through Stephen Ministry gave me the courage and confidence I needed to be a more effective supervisor in my secular job—and to be more assertive in my personal relationships. Thank you for helping me develop these vital skills."

> Elizabeth, Rehabilitation Counselor Madison, Wisconsin

"Being a Stephen Minister has taught me to rely on God instead of always trying to fix things myself. I've learned what to say, how to listen, and what to do during a crisis. It's a great feeling to provide people with the spiritual care and support they need."

> John, Physician Greenwood, South Carolina

"Since becoming a Stephen Minister, I've experienced a richness of God's grace beyond anything I could have imagined. To truly listen with the ears of Christ, to see others through his eyes, to know his heart, to see Jesus working through you to touch the life of someone else is a window into heaven."

William, Business Owner Katy, Texas

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"Being a Stephen Minister is much bigger and better than just helping other people. It becomes part of you—it changes you for the better. My faith is stronger. I've learned to listen, care, pray aloud, and be more assertive. I love it! With God's help I'll continue to grow through this wonderful ministry."

Doris, Cafeteria Assistant Jacksonville, North Carolina

"Stephen Minister training has given me skills I use all the time with my patients, particularly when they experience a crisis, large or small. It enables me to provide a level of emotional care that enhances the clinical care we provide."

Barbara, Dental Hygienist Saginaw, Michigan

"Stephen Minister training has helped me relate better to family, friends, neighbors—everyone I meet. I've experienced the fruit of the spirit—love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, and self-control. God is part of my daily life more than ever before. It's been a real blessing."

Maria, Mother Ridgefield, Connecticut

"Being a Stephen Minister has been a blessing in so many ways. It's drawn me closer to God. It's allowed me to be Christ's presence to another person—an amazing feeling. And it's made me part of a loving, caring family of Stephen Ministers and Stephen Leaders who support each other in their ministry."

Frank, U.S. Navy (Retired)
Ballwin, Missouri

"My faith has grown, my prayer life has doubled, and I know how to really make a difference in people's lives. I'd encourage anyone who has the chance to become a Stephen Minister."

George, Architect Prairie Village, Kansas

"God gave me a heart for other people. Stephen Ministry gave me the skills I needed to minister to other people and bring God's love into their lives during a time of deep need. I'm humbled and awed God can use me like this."

> Charlotte, Case Management Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

"Without a doubt, serving as a Stephen Minister has been the most rewarding, growth-producing, meaningful thing I've ever done!"

> Don, Electrician Highland, Michigan

"I've been a Stephen Minister for nearly ten years and can truly say it becomes a part of your life. I'm more in tune with people's needs. I always do my best to listen, care, and model the love of Jesus. It's such a blessing to see God working through me to change lives."

> Phyllis, College Math Instructor Shoreview, Minnesota

"Stephen Ministry has given me a way to serve God more faithfully by being his presence to those in need. In the process God has blessed me with skills I didn't know I had and enriched my life in more ways than I could ever imagine."

> Gene, Aerospace Engineer Manassas, Virginia