

A PRAYER SHAWL - A VISIBLE REMINDER OF “THE SPIRIT GIVES LIFE”

A prayer shawl was dedicated by the Convention Chaplain during the final prayer on Saturday, Cheryl Ramirez, the creator of the prayer shawl shared with the attendees how God had provided for each detail of the circumstances surrounding the shawl and its recipient – the family of the delegate who died following a fall at the Convention Center’s front door...

Cheryl had come to the Northwest District Convention as a volunteer for one day. She was not sure what exactly to expect but she was certain that God had called her there to be in the Prayer Tent area. This area was dedicated for those who desired to lift prayer requests received from convention attendees and exhibitors; join in corporate prayer; be prayed over; or to reflect and meditate in a quiet place.

That morning Cheryl packed her shawls – prayer shawls that had been dedicated and were to be given to specific recipients. They were to be examples. She also brought her needle and yarn to work on yet another prayer shawl – one for which there was no recipient – one that would be green and blue – colors representing comfort and healing.

Throughout the day she shared about the Prayer Shawl ministry. In between questions she continued to work on the shawl.

She prayed over the stitches - “Dear Lord, Please bless this needle of mine, that I may make a shawl of strength, faith, health and love...may the recipient be able to know that you are with them and they are not alone. That they are cared for and loved and prayed for, that your loving arms are around them, to protect them for whatever reason they should need...Lord, thank you for the blessings that this is given. Amen.”

Later that day, as Cheryl was finishing the shawl, God revealed who He had in mind to receive it. Until that time Cheryl did not know that one of the attendees at the convention had fallen upon his arrival and been hospitalized. She found out through a prayer request for the family which announced his death. The unknown was revealed. God had brought Cheryl to the convention to make the shawl for this man’s wife.

The shawl became a visible reminder of the convention theme “The Spirit gives life” – 2nd Corinthians 3:6. Just prior, verse 3 states “And you show that you are a letter from Christ delivered by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.” Cheryl, God spoke through you - not on stone but in the yarn of green and blue – given by Him as a “ministry of the Spirit of glory”. (vs. 8).

Our prayers are with Myrna Brachman and family on the death of her husband, Bill.

For more information about prayer shawl ministry: www.shawlministry.com