



Life Saver Ministries
83 Middlesex Street
N. Chelmsford, MA 01863
(978) 251-8191

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Dear Life Savers,

My two favorite books when I was a child were Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel and The Little Engine that Could. I can remember reading them over and over again. Both are about facing adversity, setting goals, having faith, working hard, and beating the odds.

Mike Mulligan and his steam shovel, Mary Ann, had worked hard all their lives and accomplished many wonderful things, but technology had made them obsolete. No one wanted to hire an old steam shovel, when they could hire a new diesel shovel that was bigger and faster.

This didn't stop Mike and Mary Ann. Mike applied for a job digging the hole for the basement of a new town hall, and he said they could do the job in one day. The town selectmen had their doubts and said it would take a hundred men at least a week to dig that hole. Mike insisted he and Mary Ann could dig as much in a day as a hundred men could dig in a week.

Even though Mike wasn't sure they could do it, he had faith in himself and Mary Ann. He even said that if they couldn't finish in one day, the town wouldn't have to pay them for the job. In case you haven't read this book, or forget the ending, I won't spoil it. Let me just say that their faith in their abilities and hard work paid off.

In the Little Engine that Could, the engine that was pulling a train loaded with toys and food for children on the other side of the mountain broke down. The toys asked a couple of big, strong engines for help, but they refused because they felt it was beneath them to pull a small train of toys and food, even though they were for children.

They then asked another engine that looked "very old and tired" to help them." This engine said, "I'm so tired. I must rest my weary wheels. I can not. I can not. I can not."

Then a little engine came along, and the toys asked her to help. The little engine said that she was not very big and was only used to switch trains in the yard, she had never been over the mountain.

Then, "The little engine looked up and saw the tears in the doll's eyes. And she thought of the good little boys and girls on the other side of the mountain who would have no toys and no wholesome food unless she helped."

Then she said, (Everybody knows this. Let's say it with her.) "I think I can. I think I can. I think I can."

The lessons portrayed in these two stories are some of the most important lessons we try to teach the young moms at My Father's House.

- *Don't compare yourself with others.* There will always be someone smarter, stronger, better looking, and with more money than you. Don't worry about them. Use the gifts God gave you to make your life better.
- *Set goals and give your all to accomplish them.* If you don't know where you want to go, you'll never get there. You'll also never get there if you don't work hard.
- *Don't worry what others say about your goals or your abilities.* Your goals are neither better nor worse than the goals of others. Have faith in your abilities.
- *Don't give up when things get difficult,* because things always get difficult. Keep your eye on your goal, not your circumstances.
- *Don't be afraid to ask for help.* A lot of people may refuse to help you, but there are people with the ability and the willingness to help.
- *Help others in need, especially kids.* You strengthen yourself when you help others.

One more thing, the Steam Shovel and the Little Engine are both girls.

Matching Gift Challenge – Last month, I told you that we had the opportunity to receive a matching grant of \$5,000. Your response was incredible. Eighty-seven people/families donated a total of \$20,220. When you add the \$5,000 in matching funds, that's a total of \$25,220. Thank you so much for your generosity.



Although the Matching Gift Challenge was a great success, we're still in a hole. So, I came up with the bright idea of having a One Man Walkathon.

The first week of October, I'm going to attempt, and I emphasize attempt, to walk 100 miles in one week to raise money for My Father's House. I don't know if I'll make all 100 miles or not, but I'll do my best.

I would really appreciate it if you would head over to www.onemanwalkathon.com, watch the video starring yours truly, and make a per mile pledge for however many miles I do manage to walk.

The more pledges I receive, the more incentive I will have to keep going and the more we'll be able help these young moms and kids. I'll post my progress on the My Father's House Facebook Page as I go. With your help, "I think I can" can become "I thought I could."



Kaylise and Yailimar snuggling with Michelle, while mom makes breakfast.

In His service,

Kevin
Kevin Coffey