"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."
-Winston Churchill

I'm still haunted by the images of New Orleans during Hurricane Katrina. The world watched in horror as the first clips of the city were shown after the storm flooded and ravaged the city. For me, though, it was much more personal. Those images were of our city, my city, my home.

A couple days after Katrina, we saw a picture in the local newspaper of our neighbor's house—it was flooded to the roof. We knew we had lost everything in our one-story house. But even in the midst of that loss, I had my family safe with me. While others were desperately searching for missing loved ones, we were together. Even though I had lost most everything I owned, I still had everything I really needed. It was a strong reminder of the difference between a want and a need, a difference we easily forget.

Eventually, the city allowed residents to get back to their homes and start cleaning up. "Gutting" or "mudding" a house was the process of taking everything out of the house and piling up all the trash on the street until the city could come pick it up. I'll never forget driving through the city with all these piles of trash lining the streets—an overwhelming experience. Just a few weeks earlier, all these piles of trash were somebody's treasures. In a quiet moment with the Lord, I sensed the question bubble up in my soul, "How much of my life am I investing in things that will one day be trash, and how much am I investing in things that matter, things that will last, eternal things?"

Our Desire Street Partners, the leaders on the front lines of urban ministry, inspire me. They are some of the most talented and driven people I know. They could have chosen so many different career paths, ones that could have been far more lucrative from a financial point of view—and certainly much easier. Yet, they have sacrificed so much to accept the call to serve their neighborhoods. They have chosen to truly make a life by what they give. They give their all. They are heroes.

Thank you for joining us in our efforts to support them. Your encouragement, prayers, and financial giving are instrumental in our current goal to develop 20 thriving and sustainable ministries by 2025. Thanks again and God bless you!!

By Danny Wuerffel, Executive Director
Poverty Is Nuanced  By Ben Sciacca, Ministry Director

Typically when we hear the word “poverty” our mind wanders towards scarcity of money. But poverty can include scarcity of relationships, resources, and options. Most middle and upper class people are unfamiliar with any form of poverty. However, our under-resourced communities tend to experience poverty in all of its forms.

But everyone, no matter their financial status, comes into the world spiritually impoverished. Our sin debt separates us from God. But because of Jesus Christ’s death for our sins and His imputed righteousness, we are gifted with spiritual wealth.

Because of this amazing gift of grace, we are compelled to joyously provide time, money, resources, and relationships where they are missing. This has been Desire Street’s driving force from the beginning and it’s our joyful calling today.

PARTNER COHORT
At CrossTown Ministries in Orlando, FL

“Having the Desire Street Partners in our own backyard was life-giving for our ministry and family. From the teaching, shared experiences, group learning and fellowship, I was refreshed by the whole time.”

-Eric Stites, CrossTown Ministries

We couldn’t support these amazing leaders without YOU!
Follow our partners on social media to stay connected with the work God is doing in their neighborhoods.

The intersection of lives, leaders and neighborhoods

For more information and resources visit www.desirestreet.org

Or call us at (678) 681-3979