



For thoughts and prayers. – Last week, a group of very passionate kids started a movement in response to the Parkland shootings. That’s great, I love to see impassioned youth involved in something other than video games and texting. Especially involved in something as important as this. As a concerned citizen of this world and, most of all, a horrified parent, I agree that there exists a need to fix a gun law system that is flawed.

In the process, however, many of these young individuals, along with some high-profile adults, are claiming “thoughts and prayers do nothing” and “solve nothing” in this regard. This is where I think they miss the mark and are highly confused. At least I’d like to think they are confused and not being misled. Because the heartfelt thoughts and prayers many people have been sending out since this tragedy occurred are not meant to “solve” the shootings of innocent people or to “fix” laws. The actions to come will work toward that end, hopefully. Rather, they are meant to heal and comfort those left grieving and to lift to heaven those souls lost. And I fear that this activist group’s claim, now entangled in its efforts to push for change, will further along the lack of faith and God in this country and, especially, in our youth’s lives.

This morning I saw “Thoughts and Prayers Do Nothing” t-shirts selling online. While I understand the frustration involved in all of this, as a believer who has experienced first-hand the power of thoughts and prayers, the cynicism exhibited by these young minds, is unsettling. And it saddens me.

“Faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.” [James 2:16]. True. Much action is called for in this world, and I hope these kids understand, sooner rather than later, that faith is meant to be our initial response and our starting place, and focus their energy and message on the issue at hand. They have a real chance here to make a difference. I hope they do. And so, much thought and prayer should go out to them.

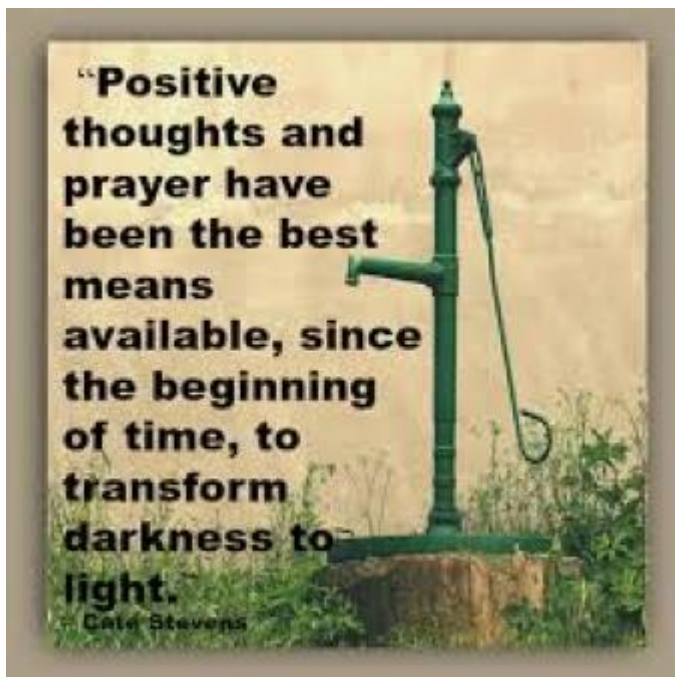
For thoughts and prayers, today and always, I am thankful.

#ThoughtsAndPrayersMatter

“Pray to catch the bus, then run as fast as you can.”

J. Cameron

“Courage is contagious. When a brave man takes a stand, the spines of others are often stiffened.” - Billy Graham



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