

Secular Pulpit 24/7

Grocery Store Grace

My first experience with Grocery Store Grace: Now remember, this was a challenge for me because I go to the grocery store to buy groceries! I had prayed about what I could do to be more outwardly focused on people instead of my grocery list. And God gave me my answers!

First of all, I was to perfect my recipes and find some that kids love. I found a favorite, printed it, and at the bottom it said: *There's no service too small for God or mankind, even this recipe that provides veggies hidden in comfort food that your kids will love.*

On the other side, I talked about getting hooked on inconvenience. I gave the story of my granddaughter's random act of kindness in Chicago of pulling a stranger's van out of the snow. At the bottom it says: *Pass It On—a small act of kindness. Sometimes it will inconvenience you, you can sure get hooked. It's a detour that feels so good!*

As I was in the car praying before I went in, I realized how apprehensive I was. I'm never scared! What is this about? I sucked up my courage and went in and as I was walking in I saw a beautiful woman and we smiled at each other and mentioned how beautiful the weather was. I told her it was a little like being in heaven today. Then I popped the question. "Do you cook for kids?" When she said yes, I asked her if she would like a "Kids Love It" recipe. And she said yes, so I shared the recipe. And I said, "If your kids love it, pass it on. It's just a small act of kindness. And there's a story on the back about my granddaughter who lives in Chicago who writes them up and sends them to me and we now call it getting hooked on inconvenience because it feels so good!" She's my Pass It On! partner. Remember, it's just small acts of kindness. Sometimes it will inconvenience you, but you can sure get hooked.

By the way, I had fifteen spiritual encounters in the grocery store that day. It took me twice as long to buy my groceries, but when I got in the car and listened to my Christmas music, I thought I'd died and gone to heaven! The euphoria was like nothing in the world. The amazing thing I discovered is that the secular world may be even more receptive than church because they know they've felt a spirit connection of some kind.

