

Care Receivers Share How Their Stephen Ministers Made a Difference

*Although my needs changed as I went from wife to caregiver to widow, my Stephen Minister's love and support remained a constant. She was **there at every stage of my journey**, helping me through some of the most difficult moments of my life—so I could begin to heal.*

Susan ●

*When things seemed like too much to handle, **my Stephen Minister brought normalcy and calm**. With him by my side, I knew I could make it from one week to the next. I could feel God's presence when my Stephen Minister was there.*

James ●



- Grief
- Health Issues
- Personal Crisis
- Divorce
- Terminal Illness/End of Life Issues
- Spiritual Crisis
- Caregiver for a Loved One
- Financial Difficulties/Job Loss
- Infertility
- Other

*My Stephen Minister was a consistent presence walking with me throughout my divorce. He would always show up, and **most importantly, he refused to give up on me**. I'll forever be grateful for the way he changed my life.*

Ralph ●

*When I was with my Stephen Minister, **I felt Jesus was with me**. I saw the love of God in her eyes while we talked and prayed, and it would fill me with such comfort and peace. It helped me know that I could make it through.*

Ashley ●

After the death of my mom, **I needed someone who would listen**—even to the same stories over and over—and who wouldn't be afraid to say her name or bring up her memory. That's who my Stephen Minister was, and I don't know how I would have gotten through it without her.

Molly ●

My Stephen Minister listens—really listens. **He doesn't judge me or tell me what to do** but walks side by side with me. I never realized how helpful and healing that can be. With his care and support, I'm making it through.

Brian ●

I'm blessed with an amazing Stephen Minister. She's been genuinely attentive and caring ever since she came alongside me. She's kind of fearless in that way—**she'll just be there without trying to fix me** or talk me out of my feelings as I struggle with what's happening.

Nancy ●

My Stephen Minister's weekly visits became an anchor in my life—something I could rely on when everything else was so uncertain. **She was a steady reminder of God's presence**, helping me know I was never alone.

Heather ●

When someone you love is terminally ill, people often pull back because they're scared and don't know what to say. But **my Stephen Minister stood with me through it all**—listening, talking, and helping me on the journey. It was so reassuring to know he was by my side.

Andrew ●

My Stephen Minister loves me, listens to me, cares for me, prays for me, supports me, and **gives me a safe, confidential relationship** where I can totally share my heart. No matter how much I have to unload on her, she listens to whatever is going on.

Celeste ●

I needed to know that there was one person in the world who knew the good, the bad, and the ugly about me—and still cared for me. Experiencing that through my Stephen Minister was **a tangible expression of God's love**. It changed my life.

Julia ●

Stephen Ministry showed me the face of Christ. **God brought me exactly what I needed** through the care of my Stephen Minister, and that demonstrated to me how God cares for each and every one of us.

Frank ●

- **Stephen Ministry** is a lay caring ministry being used by more than 13,000 congregations worldwide to increase care and outreach to hurting people.
- Through Stephen Ministry, congregations are able to equip and empower a team of laypeople—Stephen Ministers—who provide one-to-one, Christ-centered care to people experiencing grief, health issues, divorce, spiritual crisis, job loss, infertility, or other life difficulties. Since Stephen Ministry began in 1975, millions of people have received care from a Stephen Minister.
- Visit stephenministries.org to learn more about Stephen Ministry and see stories about the difference Stephen Ministers are making in people's lives.