

NEWS BREAK

Wednesday's News Break selects an article from Monday, September 21 of The Seattle Times e-Edition for an in-depth reading of the news. Read the selected article and answer the attached study questions. **Please remember to always preview the content of the article before sharing with your students.**

For 2 families, simple parking stalls and church's open door meant relief (Main News, page A1).

Pre-Reading and Vocabulary

1. Before you read this article, as a class discuss what you think this story will be about. Write down any keywords from the title, which you used to make your predictions.

2. **Vocabulary: Match the words to the numbered definitions below.**

- A. background
- B. evicted
- C. financial aid
- D. generosity
- E. infusion
- F. paying forward **or** pay it forward
- G. shelter
- H. subsidized
- I. tolerance
- J. vacancies

- 1. to help someone or something pay for the costs of (something)
- 2. the addition of something (such as money) that is needed or helpful
- 3. the experiences, knowledge, education, etc., in a person's past
- 4. a place that provides food and protection for people or animals that need assistance
- 5. the quality of being kind, understanding, and not selfish
- 6. willingness to accept feelings, habits, or beliefs that are different from your own
- 7. to respond to a person's kindness to oneself by being kind to someone else
- 8. to force (someone) to leave a place
- 9. a room in a hotel, motel, etc., that is available for use
- 10. money that is given or lent to students in order to help pay for their education

Comprehension

- 1. Where are single mother Babette Van Hook and her 7-year-old son currently living?
- 2. Why can't Babette Van Hook qualify for some subsidized housing programs?
- 3. What is one thing Van Hook says she worries about?

4. Van Hook said she wants her 7-year-old son's life to have "something normal". What is the "something normal" she does for him?
5. Why did Jami and Tim Kemp and their three teenagers move to Seattle from Reno?
6. What happened to the Kemps that left them homeless when they arrived in Seattle?
7. Why couldn't Jami and Tim Kemp apply for public assistance and jobs?
8. How many months of school did their three kids end up missing?
 - a) 1 month
 - b) 2 months
 - c) 3 months
9. When the Kemps made calls to the King County 211 social-services hotline and they found a shelter with vacancies, what were they told?
10. The Kemp family was finally pointed to the Safe Parking Program at the church, where they stayed for how long?
11. What good luck did the Kemps finally have that allowed them to rent a house?
12. What does Tim Kemp now do every Wednesday as a way of "paying forward" the generosity the church showed them when they were homeless?

Additional Activities

1. Have you ever been the recipient of an act of generosity? Did you want to "pay it forward"? Think of a way someone has shown you a kindness (a stranger, a family member, teacher, etc.) Journal about that kindness and what you did or could do to "pay it forward". Look for opportunities this week and throughout the year for opportunities to help others.
2. Read the following quote from the article by Jami Kemp: ***"The whole thing taught us 100 percent tolerance." The kids have become incredible people. They show so much kindness and understanding. You see someone and you don't judge. You just don't know what's going on in their life"*** How do you think going through a hardship changes your outlook on life and how you deal with or view other people? Do you think going through hardships can make you have a more positive outlook on life – why or why not? What qualities do you think some people have that allows them to overcome hardship or obstacles more easily than others?

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