

Jesus and Those in Need



Collegiate Quarterly

Teacher's Guide

Materials

Reproducible Activity, Bibles, pencils or pens

Surveying the Source

Luke 4; John 2:13–17; 5:1–15; Phil. 2:7, 8

Plotting the Course

The students will:

- ▶ Begin identifying their own personal gifts or talents, that they are able to use to help those in need.
- ▶ Identify what types of needs are in

their family, church, school, community, and our world.

- ▶ Understand what personal benefits might result when we help others.

Preparing to Lead

When we look for how we can help others, we see insurmountable needs around the world and in our own community. We wonder, can we make a difference? We may feel defeated before we even begin to try. We give up without ever finding a way to help. But we do not

have to carry the burden for the whole world. We just need to find one thing that we can do, that will change someone's life for the better, and then do it. Success comes one need met at a time. Our directions are: See; Help; Repeat.

Getting Started

A. Use the Reproducible Activity to identify those in need. Take 15-25 minutes to complete the exercise.

B. What do each of the following quotes personally mean to you?

“God does not need our money, but you and I need the experience of giving it.” (James Dobson)

“Our heavenly Father has a thousand ways to provide for us, of which we know nothing.” (Ellen White)

“In God there is no hunger that needs to be filled, only plenteousness that desires to give.” (C. S. Lewis)

“Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” (2 Cor. 9:7)

Delving Into the Word

A. God gives different gifts to His people to use in ministry. Read and discuss what Paul says about these gifts. Try to identify what gifts you and other members of your church have. Discuss how to use these gifts to serve the Lord:

Rom. 12:4–8; 1 Cor. 12:1–6; Eph. 4:11; 1 Cor. 12:7; Eph. 4:12–16; 1 Cor. 12:8, 9, 10; 12:27–30.

B. Read, discover, and discuss the diversity of God’s gifts. Who uses them to help those in need, both spiritually and physically:

Rom. 12:3–8; 1 Cor. 12:11; Eph. 4:4, 11; Rom. 12:6; Heb. 2:4; Eph. 4:6; Ephesians 1:23; 1 Cor. 2:6, 7; 2 Cor. 1:12; 2 Cor. 8:7; Matt. 17:19; 10:1; Mark 3:15; James 5:14; Mark 16:17; 1 John 4:1; Acts 2:4–11.

Pentecost was known as the Feast of Weeks. This was fifty days after Passover’s presentation of the first fruits.

Discussing the Ideas

1. What need have you ever had to deal with personally?

2. What examples of poor people helping other poor people have you witnessed?

3. Explain the statement, “Helping the poor encourages temperance.”

4. What talent/gift do you have that you can use to help people in need?

5. What examples can you think of that

applies to the following quote: “The Lord provides for the widow and the fatherless...?”

6. What does the phrase, “There are no throw away people,” mean to you?

7. Why do you think the Bible and Jesus talk so much about the poor?

8. What are some personal ministries that you have participated in during the past year or two?

Closing the Activity

List possible ways you can help those in need. Challenge the class to accomplish one then work on another in the coming week.

Some ideas to get you started:

- (Family) Lead a week of special family worships.

- (Family) Give up deserts for the week and apply money saved to paying a nagging bill.

- (Church) Visit members of the church

who cannot get out of their home.

- (Church) Send encouragement cards to various church members.

- (School) Provide after school child care one day a month (week, year, etc.).

- (Community) Have a Sunday car oil change and/or simple car repairs for single women or military wives.

- (World) Donate to ADRA.

- (World) Help fund the drilling of water wells through Maranatha International.

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Take two to three minutes and individually write down as many needs as you can identify in the following areas:

Home _____

Church _____

School _____

Community _____

Country _____

World _____

As a class, combine your lists. Below write the additional needs that were shared in class.

Home _____

Church _____

School _____

Community _____

Country _____

World _____

Circle a total of three needs that you can do something about. These can be from any list.

As a class, decide on one need that you will work toward helping to meet. List the steps you will take and what each person will do to help with the need.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

Date of Mission Accomplished! _____