



Empowering the Poor

Sunday, June 10, 2018

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³¹ *“But when the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit upon his glorious throne.*

³² *All the nations will be gathered in his presence, and he will separate the people as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³ He will place the sheep at his right hand and the goats at his left.* **Matthew 25:31-33 NLT**

“And the King will say, ‘I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!’ **Matthew 25:40 NLT**

If you help the poor, you are lending to the LORD. **Proverbs 19:17 NLT**

¹⁷ *If someone has enough money to live well and sees a brother or sister in need but shows no compassion—how can God’s love be in that person? ¹⁸ Dear children, let’s not merely say that we love each other; let us show the truth by our actions.* **1 John 3:17-18 NLT**

1. Poverty

- Usually defined as lack of something material
- Truly poor people define poverty as a mindset
- The root of all poverty is brokenness

¹⁸ *“The Spirit of the LORD is upon me, for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free, ¹⁹ and that the time of the LORD’s favor has come...” ²¹ Then he began to speak to them. “The Scripture you’ve just heard has been fulfilled this very day!”*

Luke 4:18-19, 21 NLT

2. Empowering the poor

- We serve others, not save others
- We relate with people, not rescue people
- We reach out, not reach down

Next Steps:

- Commit to reaching out to the poor when I have opportunities and am able to help
- Trust in Jesus to bring good news and help to the poor as I share his love in practical ways
- I feel compelled to give: _____
- Pray for me that I can overcome my poverty: _____
- _____