

## Showing I Care for Those in Need

12.9.18

*(Jesus) "I tell you, whatever you did it to one of the least of these My brothers and sisters of Mine, you did for me!" Matthew 25:40 (English Standard Version)*

### FOUR STEPS TO LOVING THOSE IN NEED

*"Then the King will say to those on the right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the Kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty, and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick, and you looked after me. I was in prison, and you visited me.'" Matthew 25:34-36*

*"There will always be poor people in the land. Therefore I command you to be openhanded toward your fellow Israelites who are poor and needy in your land." Deuteronomy 15:11*

1. \_\_\_\_\_ to ignore their needs.

*"It's criminal to ignore a neighbor in need, but compassion for the poor - what a blessing!" Proverbs 14:21 (The Message)*

*"While Jesus was in one of the towns, a man came along who was covered with leprosy. When he saw Jesus, he fell with his face to the ground, and begged Him, 'Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean.' Jesus reached out His hand and touched the man. 'I am willing,' he said. 'Be clean!' And immediately the leprosy left him." Luke 5:12-13*

2. \_\_\_\_\_ what I can do.

*"Give to those who ask, and don't turn away from those who want to borrow." Matthew 5:42 (New Living Translation)*

*"Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interest but each of you to the interest of others. In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus." Philipians 2:3-5*

3. \_\_\_\_\_ with others to meet long term needs.

*"As it is written: 'They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor; their righteousness endures forever.'" 2 Corinthians 9:9*

*"Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God." 2 Corinthians 9:10-11*

4. \_\_\_\_\_ on eternity.

*"Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things." Colossians 3:2*

*"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal." Matthew 6:19-20*

**MY NEXT STEP TODAY**

Memorize Matthew 25:40.

Stop ignoring the needs of “the least of these.”

Participate by helping with the Christmas store (December 14-15).

Invite two other people to next week’s concert on December 16.

Show I care by participating in NHF’s Christmas Offering.