

"The goal of our good works should be to show the love of Christ but also the way to Christ."

Visiting Angels

All of us have seen, people asking for money. They are in front of buildings, in parking lots, and at intersections. They have signs expressing their need. Some have a basket or a bucket. There are even some that have a credit card reader in case you do not have cash. I remember hearing one needy person playing beautiful music on an electric guitar in a parking lot.

Most of them, I ignore. I really hate those who knock on your window while you are waiting at an intersection for the light to change. But there was one lady, in a parking lot, with two young children that she was trying to keep still. She had a sign asking for food money. That really tore on my heart. I had an unusual amount of extra cash in my pocket, so I gave it to her. She looked at me and said "God bless you." I then went into the store and saw a Christian friend wearing a <u>Visiting Angel</u> shirt. The following verses then came to my mind.

"Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: For I was an hungered, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee hungered, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." Matt 25: 34-40

"If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit?" James 2:15,16 Faith without works is dead. James 2:20,26 But, it is not by works that we will get to heaven. Eph 2:8,9 It is by the grace of God through faith in Jesus Christ. John 3:16. The goal of our good works should be to show the love of Christ but also the way to Christ. Sadly, some churches and Christian organizations forget the second part.

Over the years, my family have helped local people in need materially. We opened our home to several who were temporary homeless. While with us, we have taken them to church. The one family, who came in December, had a young son. He was so afraid that he would not get anything for Christmas. That Christmas morning, we shared the story of Christ and had surprises for them

When we help those in need, we are like visiting angels to them. But they could really be angels unawares visiting us, testing us, teaching us, and wanting to bless us. That day, it made me wandered because the lady with the kids was nowhere in sight when I came out of the store.



Charles Stambaugh

"Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares." Heb 13:2



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