

# Foundations For Living

Laying Foundations Today For a Brighter Tomorrow

## FOUNDATIONS NEWS

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### *EVEN GREATER THINGS THAN THESE* by Linda Ensley



The Bible is full of scriptures that speak of caring for those in need. In the book of James we read that our faith is validated in meeting the physical needs of our fellowman.

***“What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, ‘Go in peace; keep warm and well fed,’ but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead” (James 2:14-17).***

Caring for the needs of others can come in different forms. We see this in the parable of the Good Samaritan. First he is moved with compassion as he sees the need of the man left by the side of the road. Second, he immediately meets the man’s physical needs as best he can. Then he brings him to a place where he can recuperate from his injuries and offers to financially compensate the innkeeper for his care.

Too often we think we cannot meet the needs of another. We may not have the resources or the skill needed to help them at the time. That should in no way prevent us from offering a word of encouragement or point them to others who may be of help.

The women of Proverbs 31 is praised for her charitable deeds: ***“She opens her arms to the poor and extends her hands to the needy” (Proverbs 31:20).***

We will also be blessed when we meet the needs of others: ***“The generous will themselves be blessed, for they share their food with the poor” (Proverbs 22:9).***



When Jesus walked the earth He met the needs of many people in miraculous ways. But when He was returning to heaven, He told His disciples that they would do even greater things than these.

***“Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in Me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. . . . You may ask Me for anything in My name, and I will do it” (John 14:12-14).***

This may be hard to believe, until you think about the fact that Jesus’ earthly ministry was limited to a few cities over the span of a few years. We have been commissioned and given the power to be the hands and feet of Jesus to the whole world for over 2000 years. Today we have resources that were not heard of in Jesus’ day. We have the capability of flying across the country to another state or to a far away land to offer our services to the needy. Today’s technology has made it possible to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ, not only around the world, but into individual homes.

Are you doing greater things than these with your time and money? Do you see needs around you that are not yet met? Ask the Lord what He would have you do to share His love with those in need.

The prophet Isaiah wrote: ***“If you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday” (Isaiah 58:10).***

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