

Acts 20:35 (NLT)

*And I have been a constant example of how you can help those in need by working hard. You should remember the words of the Lord Jesus: **'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'***"

Everyone is familiar with Jesus' words of **"It is more blessed to give than to receive."** Unfortunately we tend to only think of this around Thanksgiving and Christmas time. But when you read of giving or doing for others, it never says to do it just during the Holidays or certain seasons, because there are people in need all year round.

Do you remember those you helped out or gave to during the Holidays, do you think that's the only time they are in need? What about now, have you forgotten about them? Have you stopped praying for them, or when was the last time you even contacted them?

This is not a guilt teaching, but rather an eye opener for Christians, because we seem to try to imitate what the world is doing instead of following what God tells us to do.

† **Hebrews 13:16 (NLT)** *And don't forget to do good and to share with those in need. These are the sacrifices that please God.*

The world gives and has what they call the Holiday spirit of giving, so we as Christians follow their example instead of following Jesus' example by ministering to those in need all the time. Even worse, we pat ourselves on the back for going over and beyond during the Holidays and we get those Holiday feel good feelings, while right now around the world or even in your own neighborhood there are those crying out to God for help.

Yes God will help them, but isn't that how we are to be used by the Lord, to help those in need. James says:

† **James 2:15-16** *If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, and one of you says to them, "Depart in peace, be warmed and filled," but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit?*

It's like we are saying to those in need, "Sorry you need to wait until the Holidays before I can help you out. Come see me in November or December when I have those Holiday giving feelings. But I'll pray for you until then... if I remember too."

Do you really want joy in your life? Maybe try doing things the Lord's way and not the world's way. Not just during the Holidays, but every day.

† **Psalms 112: 1 & 9 (NLT)** *Praise the LORD! How joyful are those who fear the LORD and delight in obeying his commands. They share freely and give generously to those in need. Their good deeds will be remembered forever. They will have influence and honor.*