

pray . fast . give .



Living Lent | Day 8

Nothing Lacking for any Child

"As it is written, nothing left over to the one with the most, nothing lacking to the one with the least."

II Corinthians 8:15 MSG

Encouragement for the Lenten Journey:

In the kingdom of God, generosity is an act of worship. By giving to others, we acknowledge that we have been given much ourselves. First, God grants us life. He has chosen us for a special purpose that only we can fulfill. Then in His extravagant love for us, God gave us his Son, Jesus, as an example of how to live and treat others. Lastly, Jesus rose from the grave to take our eyes off the earth and raise them heavenward. And in this extraordinary act of generosity, He placed His Spirit within us to let us know we would never be alone.

In the material world, we can look around and see people who live in large houses, drive fancy cars, and go on exotic vacations. We think they have it "made." In contrast, we see folks who cannot afford such luxuries and feel compassion for them. Paul tells us in Corinthians that as the body of believers, we share what we have with each other - recognizing that we have been blessed in order to bless others. We honor God by seeing our brothers and sisters through His eyes: precious children worthy of Love!

Jesus had a special place in His heart for children. Throughout His life, He made time for them and in Mark 10:14 asserted "Permit the children to come to Me; do not hinder them; for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these." He took great care to tell the children how important they are to His kingdom. So whether we have much or little materially, we are all rich in the Father's love!

In Israel, the Dead Sea supports no life- no fish nor vegetation. Rivers flow into it, but it doesn't feed any streams coming out of it. It hoards what it's given. If we keep what we have only for ourselves, we stop the current of blessings flowing down from the heart of God. We don't benefit others. We may have gifts of kindness, compassion, wisdom, patience, knowledge, holiness or love, to share, and we give what we can. We are called to be unlike the world, and have it "made" only when we know the One Who made us.

Challenge to Prayer and the Exercise of the Privilege of Generosity

As you pray and sacrifice throughout this Lenten Journey, will you take this opportunity to pay forward in generosity a gift of at least \$1 per day throughout the 40 days for the Children of Morningstar? It is a privilege and a blessing to give as we all look forward to Easter and the Resurrection.

[Donate Now](#)

Contributor

Eleanor Schneider, Statesboro, Georgia, is a former high school science teacher and thus, has been contributing to the lives of children her entire adult life. She is an active member of Statesboro First United Methodist Church and loves the adventures of kayaking, cycling, and canoeing in God's creation. Having dedicated her career to the educational benefit of children, Morningstar is another perfect opportunity for Eleanor to ensure that there is "nothing lacking for any child."

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