Josiah Ministrles International Newsletter

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Matthew 25:35-40

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, 36 I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'





37 "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? 38 When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? 39 When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you? 40 "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'





What does the Scriptures tell us?

This portion of Scripture greatly challenged us to look beyond the walls of the church and to reach out to those in need. One of the things the Lord spoke to us about was not to go out in judgment but to reach out and show love to all in need, especially on the streets. While the need is great, this is just our small contribution to society. We also pray that the Lord will send in more labourers.



OUR HEART

Serving God's people

>>> WHO WE ARE

Our Assistant Pastors, Joseph and Carmen Lackay, with the help of others in the congregation, were the ones who took up the challenge to consistently go out and drive this vision forward. We are extremely thankful to these saints. The feeding scheme initiative was established in early 2019, with a commitment to providing sustenance to the homeless and less fortunate twice a week. We also felt that this was a way our ministry could sow back into the community. We are also thankful to congregation members who opened their hearts to this initiative. We did not desire any outside funding as we felt that this should be a responsibility that the ministry should carry. It is more blessed to give than to receive.

>>> PURPOSE

The objective extended beyond addressing mere physical needs; it aimed to nurture spiritual growth as well. Regrettably, the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic forced a temporary halt to the feeding program. However, as soon as the lockdown restrictions were lifted, and movement resumed, the initiative swiftly continued its activities. A strategic decision was made to distribute food exclusively on Tuesdays, and we take pride in the fact that we have consistently upheld this commitment without missing a single day of providing meals to the less privileged. One of our members, Andrea Le Roux, started working with children on a Saturday morning. Later, we realised that the kids were needy and also needed to be fed. Most homes in the Cloetesville area were struggling due to the Covid effect, and the poor kids really suffered. Our Feeding Scheme team then stepped in and started feeding the kids with oats every Saturday morning. We also used this opportunity to do fun things and pray with the kids. The need was so great in the community that we now see adults coming to be fed as well. Morne and Rene Paulse, also members of our congregation, started reaching out to feed people in their area too. This part of the feeding scheme continues to take place every Saturday as well, in Eike Street, Cloesteville.

APPRECIATION



COMPOSTING

Dedicated volunteers willingly invest their time and resources to meticulously prepare and distribute the food and porridge to those in need. A sincere expression of gratitude goes out to the exceptional individuals who have united to bring about such a profound impact in the lives of the less fortunate. Our heartfelt thanks are extended to all our sponsors for their thoughtful and generous contributions. Your unwavering support is the linchpin of our success, and without it, none of our achievements would have been possible. Your generosity has made a substantial difference, and we are genuinely thankful for your steadfast partnership and commitment to our cause. It's our sincere belief that there is no way that you can give to God without reaping a harvest of blessing yourself. This will be our sincere prayer for you and your families.

2 Corinthians 9:6-8

6 Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.7 Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.8 And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

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