

Considering the Poor (5/28/23)

Main Verses: Psalm 41:1-3

Key Verse: Psalm 41:1

'Takeaway': Even when it doesn't seem like it right away, God's blessings are many when we care for those who have little.

Getting Started: Have you ever needed help?



READ: Psalm 41:1-3 (or have older kids help read).

Some **QUESTIONS** to consider:

Toddler/PreK:

- Who might the psalmist be thinking of when he writes about “the poor”?
- What does it mean to consider the poor?
- What are some ways we can show kindness to the poor?
- How does God bless us when we obey him & show kindness to those in need?

Elementary:

- Who might the psalmist be thinking of when he writes about “the poor”?
- Why do we consider the poor?
- How can we show kindness to the poor?
- How does God bless us when we obey him & show kindness to those in need?

Here are some **IMPORTANT IDEAS** we discover in these verses:

Toddler/PreK:

- The poor are those who often cannot provide for their basic needs - like food, clothing, & shelter.
- We show kindness to the poor because of the great kindness God has extended to us thru Jesus, who cared so much about our spiritual poverty that he gave his life so we could know & live with God forever (see also 2 Corinthians 8:9).
- One of the ways we show kindness to others is by sharing with them about God's kindness & rescue of us from our sins thru his Son Jesus. Other ways might include sharing money & resources (food, clothing) or by offering someone protection.
- God blesses us when we obey him by showing kindness to the poor. He does this by delivering us, protecting us, & sustaining us when we are sick.

Elementary:

- The poor are those who often cannot provide for their basic needs - like food, clothing, and shelter.
- We show kindness to the poor because of the great kindness God has extended to us thru Jesus. We share Jesus with others because Jesus cared so much about our spiritual poverty that he died on the cross & rose again so we could know & live with him forever (see also 2 Corinthians 8:9).
- There are many ways to show kindness to the poor, including helping them financially (money, food, clothing) & protecting them (standing up to a bully perhaps, offering shelter), but most importantly by sharing with them about God's kindness & rescue of us from our sins thru Jesus's death and resurrection.
- God tells us to show kindness to the poor & then God blesses us when we obey him in it. He delivers us, protects us, & sustains us when we are sick.

An **ENCOURAGEMENT** in light of God's word:

(Toddler/PreK) Talk to God. Thank him for the amazing kindness he has shown us thru Jesus. Ask God how you can show kindness to others, & especially to those people who cannot provide for their needs like food, clothing and shelter. Thank God for his many blessings to us.

(Elementary) Talk to God. Thank him for the amazing kindness he has shown to us thru Jesus. Thank God for his rescue from our sins thru Jesus's death & resurrection. Talk to him about ways you can extend kindness to others, & especially to those people who cannot provide for their own basic needs (food, clothing, shelter). Ask God how you can share his love & kindness with those you encounter every day. Thank him for his many blessings to us.