

BEING GENEROUS

*"Whoever oppresses a poor man insults his Maker,
but he who is generous to the needy honours him."
(Proverbs 14:31, ESV)*

REFLECTION

God has a special place in His heart for those who are poor. They are the ones who are easily bullied and most vulnerable to being exploited by those powerful rich who are callous and unscrupulous. Of course not everyone who is rich is abusive or uncaring. Thankfully there are people who are materially blessed and yet extremely generous and caring in the ways they have reached out to people in distress. Proverbs 14:31 reminds us that when we ill-treat the poor, we are insulting God. But those who are generous with their care for the needy are people who truly honour God. Let it be our desire to honour God than to insult Him.

PRAYER

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, help us not to close our eyes to those who are finding it difficult to put food on their table, to find cash to pay their utility bills, and to provide pocket money for their children. Teach us not to look down on those who earn low wages or are coping with irregular jobs. We want to honour you by caring for the poor and needy; the weak and the lonely. Open our eyes to those who are caught in poverty. Open our hearts to care for them. And open our wallets to be generous in offering material assistance to those who are struggling with livelihood issues. In the Name of Christ, Amen.

SUPPLICATION

- We thank God for news of positive development in the search for a vaccine to eradicate COVID-19. Pray that some of these trials will be successful and that they will be made available to all, regardless of one's socio-economic status or country of residence.
- We continue to lift up to God the healthcare workers who have worked very hard since the

outbreak of COVID-19. Many of them have been over-stretched and exhausted. Ask God to grant them rest and keep them strong and healthy.

- In this time of a prolonged pandemic, we remember the people who have difficulties coping with changes in their rhythm of work. We pray for the increasing number of people who have been mentally stressed and spiritually challenged. Pray to God to help those who are depressed to turn to Him for both spiritual and mental refreshment and healing.
- With each new day, we read news of businesses losing money, retrenching workers, and some have to fold up. This has impacted many people who depend on them for regular income. Pray that those who have lost their jobs will be able to find bridging assistance from churches and charities while they look for alternative employment to take care of their financial needs.

*"Lead us, Father, lead us
O'er the world's tempestuous sea.
Guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,
For we have no help but thee;
Yet possessing every blessing
If our God, our Father, be."
(James Edmeston)*

**If you need any prayer or pastoral care support,
kindly contact the pastoral care team via:**

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Contact: 6592 4011 or 6592 4012**