

# JESUS MINISTERED TO THEIR NEEDS



# MINISTERING TO THE NEEDS



*How did Jesus minister to the people's needs?*

- *He accepted interruptions.*
- *He asked about their needs.*
- *He supplied for the deepest needs.*



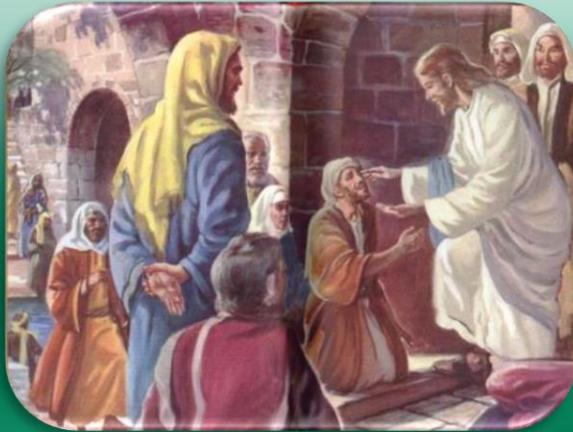
*How can we minister to the people's needs?*

- *The example of Dorcas.*
- *Church in action.*



# ASKING ABOUT THEIR NEEDS

**"So Jesus answered and said to him, 'What do you want Me to do for you?' The blind man said to Him, 'Rabboni, that I may receive my sight.'" (Mark 10:51)**



**"When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he already had been in that condition a long time, He said to him, 'Do you want to be made well?'" (John 5:6)**

**Why did Jesus ask such an obvious thing?**

**Blind Bartimaeus answered quickly, but the paralytic at the Pool of Bethesda didn't answer Jesus' question but told Him his problems.**

**That was Jesus' goal, to let them express their needs and burdens. He taught us how to empathize with people; we need to let them express themselves and to listen to them.**

**We as Church need to know the people we are trying to help. We need to let them express their concerns. We'll be able to better help them that way.**



# SUPPLYING FOR DEEP NEEDS

**“When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, ‘Son, your sins are forgiven you.’” (Mark 2:5)**



**Jesus was able to know people deeply (John 2:25; 4:17-18). Therefore, He knew that the paralytic needed spiritual healing more than just physical healing.**

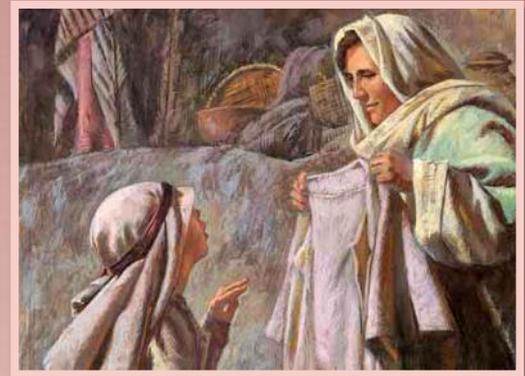
**Sometimes we may have hidden needs below other ones.**

**Although we may not have Jesus' gift to know the people that deeply, the power of the Holy Spirit can help us discerning the hidden needs of other people.**

**The deepest need is the need for divine forgiveness and grace. Meeting that need will cover shallower ones.**

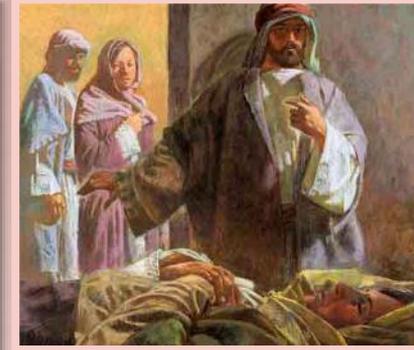
# THE EXAMPLE OF DORCAS

**“In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (in Greek her name is Dorcas); she was always doing good and helping the poor.” (Acts 9:36 NIV)**



**The main goal of Dorcas' ministry was to make clothes for those in need.**

**Acts 9:41 explains that her ministry helped two groups of people: the saints (Church members) and the widows (either Church members or not).**



**The story of Dorcas shows very clearly the love that moved her. Her life was a faithful example of Jesus' teaching, “By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.” (John 13:35).**



**Dorcas is also a good example of a specialized ministry that is focused on helping a specific group of people.**



# CHURCH IN ACTION

**"Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and he will establish your plans."  
(Proverbs 16:3 NIV)**

**Luke 14:25-35 depicts the steps we should follow to fulfill our mission:**

## 1. Be a disciple.

**Consecration: Being faithful and devoutly dedicated to our Lord and our ministry.**

**Being willing to sacrifice yourself (carrying the cross).**

**Colonizer style. Reaching the community around your Church.**

**Gardener style. Reaching a different place far from the Church location (a land to "garden").**

**Pastor style. Reaching a specific target (for example, drug addicts) instead of a specific place.**

**Specifying the field and the style of your mission. For example:**

## 2. Plan the action.

**Making a strategic work plan. It must be based in ideas from:**

**The principles in the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy.**

**The needs in the community.**

**Suggestions made by the Church members.**

E.G.W. (Mind, Character and Personality, vol. 1, cp. 5, pg. 44)

**“We shall have success if we move forward in faith, determined to do the work of God intelligently. We must not allow ourselves to be hindered by men who love to stand on the negative side, showing very little faith. God’s missionary work is to be carried forward by men of much faith and is steadily to grow in force and efficiency.”**