



## Dig Deeper Study Guide

Stroudsburg United Methodist Church - January 15, 2012

### Sermon

Responding to Today's  
Issues:

"Homelessness - Is There  
Something We Can Do  
About It?"

Isaiah 58:7-14

Things I want to remember  
about this sermon...

Monday 1/16/12  
Isaiah 58:7

Each day most of us have enough to eat and a place to lay our head down at night. Some others are not so fortunate. Can you share some bread with those who are hungry? Can you help provide a place to rest for those who are homeless? What tangible things can we do to make a difference with the problem of homelessness? Think about this for a while today and write down things you and the church can do to make a difference.

Tuesday 1/17/12  
Isaiah 58:8

This verse seems to indicate that blessings come to those who help feed the hungry and help find a resting place for the homeless. Do you believe that God blesses those who help others? How does God bless them? Have you ever been blessed when you helped someone in the past? How did this make you feel? What should be the motivation for helping others?

Wednesday 1/18/12  
Matthew 25:32-46

This is a hard parable to read and much harder to obey. It is easy for us to make a resolution or determination to do something, but following up and actually doing it is much more difficult. The bottom line of this parable in Matthew 25 is that whenever we feed a hungry person or help someone who is homeless, it's just as though we were doing it for Jesus himself! That's right, listen to these words: "Truly I say to you, Because you did it to the least of these my brothers, you did it me." (Matthew 25:40b) When all is said and done at the end of your life, what will the King say to you?



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Things to do this week in response to the sermon...

*How do I feel about homelessness? Is it a serious problem? What difference can I make?*

*What do I do when I see a homeless person?*

Thursday 1/19/12  
Proverbs 19:17

This verse states: "Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will repay you for his deed." God must have a heart for the poor. Jesus did, too. Think about all the times Jesus talked about the poor. He seems to have the poor in his thoughts much of the time. What about you? Do you think about the poor? How often do you think about them? Think about the poor today. Can you picture them? What can you do to help them?

Friday 1/20/12  
Philippians 4:19

"And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus." These encouraging words from the book of Philippians are meant for the poor and the homeless, too. Every single human being is loved by God. There is not one anonymous person in the sight of God. Each and every one of us count to God and are loved by God. Do not ignore the homeless. Even if you don't give them something immediately when you meet them, look them in the eye, give them a nice smile, and say hello. It just might make their day!

Saturday 1/21/12  
Matthew 6:25-34

These words are comforting to us. They remind us that God does indeed take care of us. We do not have to worry. But what if we found ourselves homeless? Could we believe these words then? What can you do to share these words of hope with the homeless in our community? How can we show that God really does provide for those who are without? Do we believe these hopeful words apply to all God's people? Write down one thing you can do in the upcoming week to make a difference for a homeless person. Maybe by your helping ways, some person might realize the power of these hopeful words in Matthew.