



Today's News

The Homeless

Homelessness has always been with us. You have seen them, the addict, the mentally ill, the poverty stricken, all have been with us and we thought homeless shelters were a solution. Soup kitchens and faith based organizations dispensing food to the homeless and the poor were always with us.

However a new and growing crisis has developed in the Land of the Free and the Home of the Brave. All across the United States people are adding to the problem at an alarming rate! Foreclosure, unemployment, the downturn in the economy, and many other factors has brought a new breed of homelessness. Now professional people and their families are finding themselves on the streets, in the woods, and living out of their vehicles. Those who thought they were financially secure and successful in their businesses, now find they trusted in a fleeting economy.

The government and states are addressing the issue by making funds available to aid those in their financial distress. Just having a place in a homeless shelter is not a solution. There are some states that are aiding these victims of circumstances to get housing and jobs. They are being subsidized to get back on their feet. Then as they are helped, they in turn volunteer a day per week or month to help others suffering as they did. The need for volunteers is great. Of course there are some on the streets that will not accept help because of distrust, mental illness or addiction. However, most will accept it. But this growing problem is of gigantic proportions and requires our prayers and our support.

We need to put ourselves in their situation. What would we do, should we find ourselves homeless? Just being out on the streets in the cold or heat would be exhausting, not to mention the emotional distress we would encounter. There would be no easy chair on which to sit, no heat or air conditioning, no cell phone for communication, no TV, computer, and all the things we are so accustomed to on a daily basis. We could afford nothing! Soup kitchens and food pantries are being exhausted; we might go there to find the cupboards are bare!

Homelessness is the problem of everyone. If you are able, contribute to legitimate organizations, your time and resources. We need to pull together to provide housing and food for everyone in that situation. Let the phrase, with "liberty and justice for all" resound in our ears, until everyone is properly taken care of. Be the "Good Samaritan" in your community. And most of all pray that this will all come about.