



## Praying as families for the Homeless and Destitute.

Day 22

The number of individuals and families living in homelessness has been steadily increasing, with the United Nations reporting an estimated 100 million homeless people globally in 2005. Habitat later indicated that around 1.6 billion people lacked adequate housing. In 2021, the World Economic Forum reported 150 million homeless individuals worldwide, including in nations like the United States, particularly in cities such as New York. These individuals often find themselves begging on the streets and facing destitution with no place to call home.

It's crucial to recognize that the Lord cares deeply for those without shelter, suffering in inadequate conditions, and lacking clothing. Isaiah 58:7 calls upon God's people to "provide the poor wanderer with shelter, and when you see the naked, to clothe them." God's heart is moved for those made in His image, experiencing such lack, and He desires His people to actively engage in uplifting and aiding them. Neglecting the destitute and homeless hinders our prayers. If each Christian takes the initiative to care for one homeless individual and address their needs, the overall population of homelessness could significantly decrease. Often, these actions are not seen as part of our spiritual responsibilities, but James 2:15-17 strongly admonishes us, stating that faith without corresponding actions is useless and dead.

Jesus' ministry consistently focused on those marginalized and neglected by society. Many end up in a state of destitution, wandering the streets, and begging due to rejection from their homes. While some may find themselves in such circumstances due to their choices, the Lord does not pass judgment but calls His people to care for them. Regardless of their circumstances, the Lord encourages us to share His love and grace with those in need.

Let's dedicate time in our prayers specifically for ministries involved in providing shelter and clothing to those in need. May every Christian demonstrate Christ's love through these acts of



kindness, recognizing that on the day of judgment, we will give an account for how we fed the hungry, invited strangers into our homes, and clothed the naked, as stated in Matthew 25:35-40. May none of us overlook this essential ministry, and may God raise up many to address these needs for the advancement of His Kingdom of love and peace.

## LET US PRAY

Lord Jesus, we express gratitude for the abundance we have found in you. Yet, your heart is moved for those lacking the basic necessities of homes, shelter, and clothing. Grant us Your caring heart and eyes so that, in this busy world, we may notice those in need and be generous in providing for them. May Your love and grace empower us to serve You by serving those in need. Lord, extend Your protection and provision to the millions seeking a safe place to dwell. Though we may not be able to help everyone, make us, as a family, instruments to bless at least one person in need of these basic necessities. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

