

Sunday Leftovers

Sermon Title: Not Optional – Love the Hungry

What's this message about?

As we start a new school year and bless backpacks this Sunday, we need to remember that 'those children' are 'God's children,' which means they're 'Our children.' This isn't only the government's responsibility, it's not only TISD's responsibility, this is also the Church's calling: the care for the love-starved children in our backyard. If we don't do it, who will? From Old Testament to New Testament, God has always demanded that His people care for the most vulnerable. God even gave his people a comprehensive plan for the care of widows and orphans. In this plan he instructed farmers leave some of the harvest for the hungry so that they will have something to eat. This also part of our plan: to "Invest in the Next" by caring for the vulnerable in our community.

Questions for discussion:

- *What do you think was the main point of Matt's message?*
- *Why do you think God felt it important to specifically instruct farmers to leave some of the harvest for the poor, widowed and orphaned? (Deuteronomy 24:19,20)*
- *Why do you think God does not do more with regard to widows and orphans?*
- *What are some ways we, as an individual/church can help the poor and the vulnerable?*

Do something about it:

When God wants us to do something He places a person on our hearts or a situation or opportunity in our path. Consider the people, situations and opportunities in your life. If service is not an option and God is putting some clear opportunities (road signs) in your path, what are you waiting for? Take time this week to look for the "road signs" (opportunities) before you. Consider each of them and then choose at least one that you plan to commit to. Take the necessary steps to make it happen.

Digging deeper:

Deuteronomy 14:29; 24:19,20; Psalms 68:5; Isaiah 1:17; James 1:27; 1 Timothy 5:8; 1 Peter 5:2-4