

REFLECTION

BLD NEWARK COVENANT COMMUNITY

GIVE WITHOUT COST

By our very nature, we equate efforts with rewards. In our everyday dealings, we find that we do things only because of what we get in return. Sometimes, we become exacting in our kind gestures and sacrifices, expecting that the same be accorded to us. And if this does not happen, we cease to do good and hold back on our generosity and care. We quit serving others when we feel that we have given so much yet are not appreciated. But the Lord firmly tells us: Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, drive out demons. Without cost you have received; without cost you are to give. (Mt 10: 8)

Yes, the Lord has given us so much, everything that truly matters in this life to the next. The Lord has been so generous to us, to our families that we owe our very life to Him. Most importantly, undeserving as we are, He cleansed us from all our sins and allowed us to claim eternal salvation. So, how are we to give thanks to our Lord?

We ought to proclaim His great Name to everyone we meet. We should bring His love to other people, most especially the poor, the sick and the outcasts. We take to heart a genuine compassion for all of God's people. In humble and loving service, we give without cost and share our time, talent and treasure with every needy person. We share Jesus in us, giving hope and courage; giving God's joy and peace.

Our goal is to see God face to face and inherit His Kingdom after this life. We prepare ourselves by living the life of Christ and obeying His commandments. Only by the grace of God can this be done and not through our efforts!

Let us pray and ask God to guide our actions, sustain us when we are discouraged and enable us to be humble and cheerful givers as a proud man can never serve his neighbor. We must regularly confess our sins and receive the Holy Eucharist so that God's grace may enrich our spirit, goodness will flow through us and we will never grow weary in our works of charity!

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