

REFLECTION

BLD NEWARK COVENANT COMMUNITY

NURTURING OTHERS

How many times have we missed to help a person in need when the opportunity came along? Thus will it be for the one who stores up treasure for himself but is not rich in what matters to God.. (Lk 12:21)

We have been reading a lot about the catastrophic devastation of the Hurricane Katrina, the thousands left homeless, their ordeal and struggle to stay alive, the grief and agony over the loss of loved ones. But did these horrific circumstances really move us to stop and listen to this utter desperation of our brothers and sisters? As true disciples of Christ- we have the responsibility to give them comfort and aid them in any way we can possibly do. This is one opportunity that we can say to our Lord, thank you for your gifts and blessings to my family and let me share these to my brothers and sisters who are suffering and in dire need of my assistance.

There are many situations although in a smaller scale that we must give of ourselves. In some families, small children feel neglected or abandoned because the parents are out working overtime or having 2 jobs. We oftentimes measure more income, more money as higher standard of life, equating this financial attainment as the prime importance of our existence. Unknowingly we become so entangled with hoarding more and more material possessions for our family and sadly we miss out on the many opportunities to nurture our children's emotional and spiritual growth.

The Lord is telling us to be rich in the things that matter and these are building strong Christian values to our children and to be ready to share our life to the service of all God's people. God gives us gifts to be shared. He never intended for us to keep these to ourselves. He blesses us with a good home, so we can be more compassionate to the homeless. He blesses us with good health, so we can attend to the frail and the sick. He blesses us with good fortune, so we can lift up the less fortunate. He blesses us with talents, so we can brighten someone's life. He blesses us with authority in our jobs, so we can protect the oppressed and discriminated. He blesses us with a strong community to draw strength from, in nurturing a sick or broken brother back to wholeness again with our prayers and caring support.

Yes, Lord, we want to be rich only in the things that matter. Help us to acquire the desire to nurture others by our acts of charity and loving service to You.