

Those Needy People

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WHO 
CARES?

Examples of Those Needy People:

- Taking up too much group time
- Constant crises that never get resolved
- Emotional dependency that the group can't meet
- Inability to be comforted
- Not taking group advice
- Extra Grace Required people
- Seeing the group as “not enough”
- Financial Needs
- Medical problems
- Worrier
- Lack of Vulnerability
- Inappropriate statements
- Always needs rides

We are All **Those Needy** People

- Romans 5:6-8 - “You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”
- “You will never minister effectively to someone you look **down** on.”

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We Need God's Help

- If your cup is **empty**, you **can't** help anyone.
- Even **Jesus** took time to be poured into by God.
- Mark 1:35-37 - “Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed. Simon and his companions went to look for him, and when they found him, they exclaimed: “Everyone is looking for you!”
- We refuel by spending **time** with God

We Need Others' Help

- We were not created to do life **alone**.
- **Delegate** Care
- A few days later, when Jesus again entered Capernaum, the people heard that he had come home. They gathered in such large numbers that there was no room left, not even outside the door, and he preached the word to them. Some men came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus by digging through it and then lowered the mat the man was lying on. When Jesus saw **their faith**, he said to the paralyzed man, “Son, your sins are forgiven.” - Mk 2:1-5

We Need Others' Help Cont'd.

- The lame man was healed because of **his friends'** faith.
- We don't **fix** people, we **walk with** people while we are **all** being fixed.
- “A **personal** relationship with Jesus is good, but a **shared** relationship with Jesus is better.” - Craig Groeschel

Assessing the Need

- **Relief** - “the urgent and temporary provision of emergency aid to reduce immediate suffering from a natural or man-made crisis”
- **Rehabilitation** - “begins as soon as the bleeding stops; it seeks to restore people and their communities to the positive elements of their precrisis conditions.”
- **Development** - “process of ongoing change that moves all the people involved - *both the ‘helpers’ and the ‘helped’* - closer to being in right relationship with God, self, others, and the rest of creation.”

Questions for Assessing the Need:

- Is there a crisis at hand really?
- To what degree was the individual personally responsible for the crisis?
- Can the person help herself/himself?
- To what extent has this person already been receiving relief from you in the past?

Addressing the Need

- Don't Help **Alone**
- **Prevention** is better than **Intervention**.
 - Take small steps together with them over time.
 - Helping in stride takes less time than crisis care
- Always help from a posture of **humility**
 - “If you think God needs you to fix everybody else, your God is too small.”
- “People in need are not **projects** we help, they are **people** that we love.”
- **Pray. Pray. Pray!**

Resources

- Community Group Coaches!
- Community Resources Guide
- Northridge Equip - www.northridgeequip.com
- Northridge Leaders - www.northridgeleaders.com
- Community Group Care Fund
- *When Helping Hurts and Becoming Whole*
- Relational Vampires: “The People who Suck the Life Out of Us” - Craig Groeschel

Group Exercise

- What would you do?
- What have you done in similar situations?
- **Assess** and **Address** the Situation.
- **Relief** - Urgent and Temporary provision.
- **Rehabilitation** - Restoration to precrisis conditions.
- **Development** - process of ongoing change for 'helper' and 'helped'.

Questions and Thoughts

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