

## Overly Needy People

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### Restoration: Leading people back to their God-given potential.

When he saw Peter and John about to enter, he asked them for money. <sup>4</sup>Peter looked straight at him, as did John. Then Peter said, "Look at us!" <sup>5</sup>So the man gave them his attention, expecting to get something from them. Acts 3:3-5

### How should we help overly needy people?

- **We give strategically.**

Then Peter said, "Silver or gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk." <sup>7</sup>Taking him by the right hand, he helped him up, and instantly the man's feet and ankles became strong. Acts 3:6-7

- **Do for people what they can't do for themselves.**
- **Don't do for people what they won't do for themselves.**

- **We serve wisely.**

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. <sup>36</sup>Simon and his companions went to look for him, <sup>37</sup>and when they found him, they exclaimed: "Everyone is looking for you!" Mark 1:35-37

- **You can't say "yes" often without saying "no" occasionally.**

- **We trust completely.**

Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. Gal 6:7

- **Set healthy boundaries and choose to *not* continually rescue people from the consequences of their choices.**

### Could it be me?

But as for me, I am poor and needy; come quickly to me, O God. You are my help and my deliverer; Lord, do not delay. Psalm 70:5

## Let's Connect

- Dogs or cats. Which are overly needy? Plead your case.

## Let's Talk About It

We all have people in our lives that require a little more time, patience and attention. God does use people to meet needs and restore people to their God-given potential. The problem is we can unintentionally function as a savior in a needy relationship. When we do, we're taking a role only Jesus can fulfill. To truly help overly needy people, give strategically, serve wisely and trust completely. Remember that you, too, are in desperate need of the One True Savior.

John 13:34-35; Acts 3:1-10; Mark 1:35-37; Galatians 6:7; Luke 15:11-32; Psalm 70:5

- Which part of the message made an impact, caught your attention or challenged you?
- Read Acts 3:1-10. Peter and John gave the man what he needed, not what he asked for. What do you think might have happened to the crippled man if Peter and John had given him the money he had asked for? Why is a better first response to overly needy people *restoration* instead of *relief*?
- Read Mark 1:35-37. How was Jesus giving His disciples exactly what they needed? How have you received renewed energy to serve others after spending time in the presence of the Lord?
- Read Galatians 6:7. Pastor Kris said that sometimes the most loving thing you can do for an overly needy person is to set boundaries and stop rescuing them. Is there an overly needy relationship in your life that needs stronger boundaries? What step can you take? How can this group support you?
- Read Psalm 70:5. In which area of your life are you most in need? How can you invite God to meet you there?

## Take a Step

- What do you need to change to better love people who have needs? What actions will you take to trust God with your needs?

## Here's My Prayer

- God, the truth is that we are all overly needy for You, Your grace, Your presence, and Your love. Teach us to live depending on You and not someone else, or something else. Help us to take the right steps to bring healing to any hurting relationships or people in our lives. We pray this in Jesus'. Amen.