



Orange County Rescue Mission  
Inland Empire Rescue Mission  
**7 Key Principles to Serving**

(3-28-2017)

Our Vision to Serve:

*You must prayerfully assist man towards cognizance of his spiritual need and towards desire for spiritual life, assessing both the testimony of his tongue and testimony of his character regarding former ruin, received redemption, and persevering regeneration, unto future glorification in heaven above. (Romans 6:21-23)*

- a) **Ruin** “the outcome of these things is death” - Man is born inherently and universally depraved (evil), condemned through the sin of Adam, and rightfully deserving the wrath of a holy God. Thus, man must be awakened by God to understand his dire position, concluding that his own way has not worked and he remains in desperate need of solution (Romans 3:9-23, Romans 5:12, Ephesians 2:3)
- b) **Redemption** “freed from sin and enslaved to God” – In response to this new awareness of ruin, the man via the gift of new life and free-will, responds to treasure Christ as eternal substitute between his wicked nature and God’s perfect holiness; an eternal satisfaction through which the now reconciled man will abhor sin, approach the throne chambers of God, operate as pardoned child, and stand clothed in royal robes. (Matthew 20:28, Mark 10:45, John 3:16, 1 Timothy 2:6)
- c) **Regeneration** “resulting in sanctification, and the outcome, eternal life” – The man then daily asserts in confidence that he has been sealed and quickened unto salvation by the Holy Spirit, exemplifying a life towards Christ-likeness, witnessed by brethren in Christ, continuously freed of vices and weights, faithfully clutching daily perseverance as his sign of election by the Father. (Acts 2:38, Romans 5:5, Romans 8:9)

## **STEP ONE:**

***You must provide relief and services only after understanding the person's specific needs and story.***

### Scripture References:

<sup>26</sup> But an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip saying, "Get up and go south to the road that descends from Jerusalem to Gaza." <sup>27</sup> So he got up and went; and there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure; and he had come to Jerusalem to worship, <sup>28</sup> and he was returning and sitting in his chariot, and was reading the prophet Isaiah. <sup>29</sup> Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go up and join this chariot." <sup>30</sup> Philip ran up and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet, and said, "Do you understand what you are reading?" <sup>31</sup> And he said, "Well, how could I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him." Acts 8:26-31 (NASB)

<sup>3</sup> Honor widows who are widows indeed; <sup>4</sup> but if any widow has children or grandchildren, they must first learn to practice piety in regard to their own family and to make some return to their parents; for this is acceptable in the sight of God. <sup>5</sup> Now she who is a widow indeed and who has been left alone, has fixed her hope on God and continues in entreaties and prayers night and day. <sup>6</sup> But she who gives herself to wanton pleasure is dead even while she lives. <sup>7</sup> Prescribe these things as well, so that they may be above reproach. <sup>8</sup> But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever. <sup>9</sup> A widow is to be put on the list only if she is not less than sixty years old, *having been* the wife of one man, <sup>10</sup> having a reputation for good works; *and* if she has brought up children, if she has shown hospitality to strangers, if she has washed the saints' feet, if she has assisted those in distress, *and* if she has devoted herself to every good work. <sup>11</sup> But refuse *to put* younger widows *on the list*, for when they feel sensual desires in disregard of Christ, they want to get married, <sup>12</sup> *thus* incurring condemnation, because they have set aside their previous pledge. <sup>13</sup> At the same time they also learn *to be* idle, as they go around from house to house; and not merely idle, but also gossips and busybodies, talking about things not proper *to mention*. 1 Timothy 5:3-13 (NASB)

## **STEP TWO:**

***You must provide only the services and assistance that is immediately needed - Provide assistance in the right moment; not to prolong it beyond duration of the necessity which calls for it.***

### **Scripture References:**

<sup>7</sup> “If there is a poor man with you, one of your brothers, in any of your towns in your land which the Lord your God is giving you, you shall not harden your heart, nor close your hand from your poor brother; <sup>8</sup> but you shall freely open your hand to him, and shall generously lend him sufficient for his need *in* whatever he lacks. <sup>9</sup> Beware that there is no base thought in your heart, saying, ‘The seventh year, the year of remission, is near,’ and your eye is hostile toward your poor brother, and you give him nothing; then he may cry to the Lord against you, and it will be a sin in you. <sup>10</sup> You shall generously give to him, and your heart shall not be grieved when you give to him, because for this thing the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and in all your undertakings. <sup>11</sup> For the poor will never cease *to be* in the land; therefore I command you, saying, ‘You shall freely open your hand to your brother, to your needy and poor in your land.’ Deuteronomy 15:7-11 (NASB)

<sup>30</sup> Give to everyone who asks of you, and whoever takes away what is yours, do not demand it back. <sup>31</sup> Treat others the same way you want them to treat you. <sup>32</sup> If you love those who love you, what credit is *that* to you? For even sinners love those who love them. <sup>33</sup> If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is *that* to you? For even sinners do the same. <sup>34</sup> If you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is *that* to you? Even sinners lend to sinners in order to receive back the same *amount*. <sup>35</sup> But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for He Himself is kind to ungrateful and evil *men*. Luke 6:30-35 (NASB)

<sup>15</sup> If a brother or sister is without clothing and in need of daily food, <sup>16</sup> and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and be filled,” and yet you do not give them what is necessary for *their* body, what use is that? James 2:15-16 (NASB)

### **STEP THREE:**

***You must only provide what the recipient cannot provide for them self and you must provide a hand-up and not simply a hand-out to those you serve.***

#### **Scripture References:**

<sup>24</sup> There is nothing better for a man *than* to eat and drink and tell himself that his labor is good. This also I have seen that it is from the hand of God. Ecclesiastes 2:24 (NASB)

<sup>13</sup> moreover, that every man who eats and drinks sees good in all his labor—it is the gift of God. Ecclesiastes 3:13 (NASB)

<sup>11</sup> and to make it your ambition to lead a quiet life and attend to your own business and work with your hands, just as we commanded you, 1 Thessalonians 4:11(NASB)

<sup>10</sup> For even when we were with you, we used to give you this order: if anyone is not willing to work, then he is not to eat, either. <sup>11</sup> For we hear that some among you are leading an undisciplined life, doing no work at all, but acting like busybodies. <sup>12</sup> Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to work in quiet fashion and eat their own bread.

<sup>13</sup> But as for you, brethren, do not grow weary of doing good. 2 Thessalonians 3:10-13 (NASB)

#### **STEP FOUR:**

***You must provide assistance that is less than might be procured by employment, except in cases of sickness, age, or ability.***

#### **Scripture References:**

<sup>10</sup> For even when we were with you, we used to give you this order: if anyone is not willing to work, then he is not to eat, either. <sup>11</sup> For we hear that some among you are leading an undisciplined life, doing no work at all, but acting like busybodies. <sup>12</sup> Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to work in quiet fashion and eat their own bread. <sup>13</sup> But as for you, brethren, do not grow weary of doing good. 2 Thessalonians 3:10-13 (NASB)  
<sup>8</sup> But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever. 1 Timothy 5:8 (NASB)

<sup>27</sup> Pure and undefiled religion in the sight of *our* God and Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their distress, *and* to keep one self unstained by the world. James 1:27 (NASB)

<sup>9</sup> ‘Now when you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap to the very corners of your field, nor shall you gather the gleanings of your harvest. <sup>10</sup> Nor shall you glean your vineyard, nor shall you gather the fallen fruit of your vineyard; you shall leave them for the needy and for the stranger. I am the Lord your God. Leviticus 19:9-10 (NASB)

**STEP FIVE:**

*You must require each beneficiary to practice sobriety.*

Scripture References:

<sup>14</sup> Afterward Jesus \*found him in the temple and said to him, “Behold, you have become well; do not sin anymore, so that nothing worse happens to you.” John 5:14 (NASB)

<sup>10</sup> Straightening up, Jesus said to her, “Woman, where are they? Did no one condemn you?”

<sup>11</sup> She said, “No one, Lord.” And Jesus said, “I do not condemn you, either. Go. From now on sin no more.” John 8:10-11(NASB)

<sup>2</sup> And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect. Romans 12:2 (NASB)

<sup>22</sup> that, in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, Ephesians 4:22 (NASB)

## **STEP SIX:**

*You must provide types of assistance least susceptible to abuse.*

### Scripture References:

<sup>12</sup> All things are lawful for me, but not all things are profitable. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be mastered by anything. <sup>13</sup> Food is for the stomach and the stomach is for food, but God will do away with both of them. Yet the body is not for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord is for the body. <sup>14</sup> Now God has not only raised the Lord, but will also raise us up through His power. <sup>15</sup> Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take away the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? May it never be! <sup>16</sup> Or do you not know that the one who joins himself to a prostitute is one body *with her*? For He says, "The two shall become one flesh." <sup>17</sup> But the one who joins himself to the Lord is one spirit *with Him*. <sup>18</sup> Flee immorality. Every *other* sin that a man commits is outside the body, but the immoral man sins against his own body. <sup>19</sup> Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? <sup>20</sup> For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body. 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 (NASB)

<sup>28</sup> He who steals must steal no longer; but rather he must labor, performing with his own hands what is good, so that he will have *something* to share with one who has need. Ephesians 4:28 (NASB)

**STEP SEVEN:**

***And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is LOVE.***

Scripture References:

<sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Romans 3:23 (NASB)

<sup>13</sup> And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love. 1 Corinthians 13 (NIV)

<sup>48</sup> ..... Everyone to whom much was given, of him much will be required, and from him to whom they entrusted much, they will demand the more. Luke 12:48 (ESV)