



Are Your Actions Directed to Compassionate Giving?

But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or speech but in deed and in truth. (1 John 3:17-18)

Jesus Himself shared that love for God and love for our neighbour are the most important commandments. While all of us are born in the image and likeness of God and are blessed with unique talents, we may be different by economic or social status. Some may possess in abundance while some may have just enough, and others in society perhaps need assistance. This is where we are called to serve with love and compassion for the other.

We are reminded in another parable through the story of the rich man and Lazarus, where Jesus directs our thinking not to be avaricious and selfish, but instead to choose sharing with our neighbour. Just as Saint Vincent de Paul said Charity is the cement which binds communities to God and persons to one another, we are called to pay heed to the needs of our neighbours and support them closely, and with compassion and care.

Reflection Questions

1. Do you take time to have a holistic conversation with your neighbour to better understand their situation?
2. Do you listen more than speak when you visit neighbours in need?

Let us pray... Lord, You have shown us the true meaning of love by Your commandments and through Your passion, death and resurrection. May we listen with intent to Your voice and support our neighbours in need through unconditional love and peace that You shared with us. Amen.

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For those interested in contributing spiritual reflections, please email jose.torres@rogers.com. Also, for reflections that may be used in your group meeting's spirituality segment, please check out: [Monthly Reflections - Society of Saint Vincent de Paul - National Council of Canada](#)