



Privileging The Poor

Isaiah 58:6-10 • July 26, 2026

The five ethical/behavioral characteristics of the early church that set them apart as those who “loved their neighbor as themselves” were these (Heb 13:1-5; Matt 5; Rom 12-13):

- 1) They welcomed the S_____ (multi-racial, multi-ethnic)
- 2) They valued the V_____ (welcomed life from womb to tomb)
- 3) They promoted the P_____ (loved the enemy, reconciliation)
- 4) They honored their U_____ (purity, fidelity, monogamy)
- 5) They privileged the P_____ (care for the lowly)

We think of poverty in 4 ways:

D_____ : Nobody’s fault.

W_____ : It’s their fault.

P_____ : It’s my fault.

D_____ : It’s everyone’s fault.

But Christian behavior is not about assigning blame; it is about serving the person in N_____.

Church is for the P_____ (1 Cor 1:20-28; 1 Tim 5:3-10)

God Loves the P_____.

God’s people are called to care (Deut 15:11; Lk 14:13)

God’s presence means relief for the poor (Isa 29:19; Matt 11:5; Lk 4:18)

God opposes oppressing the poor (Amos 4:1; 5:11; 8:4)

God Loves the G_____ (Isa 58:6-10; Mt 19:21; Rom 15:26; 2 Cor 9:7)

Answers: Stranger, Vulnerable, Peace, Union, Poor, Desert, Willpower, Prison, Disease, Need, Poor, Poor, Giver