

NEEDY PEOPLE

Series: How to Deal with Difficult People

Matthew 9:35-38

SERIES THOUGHT: You CAN'T control what OTHERS say and do, but you CAN control what YOU say and do.

HELPING WITHOUT ENABLING

When dealing with overly needy people...

❶ **OFFER WHAT THEY NEED, NOT WHAT THEY WANT.**
(Acts 3:1-10, Proverbs 27:12)

❷ **SET HEALTHY BOUNDARIES.**
(Mark 1:29-39, Matthew 11:28-30)

❸ **ALLOW THEM TO FACE THEIR CONSEQUENCES.**
(Galatians 6:7-8 NLT, Matthew 7:6)

'God, help me remember that I'm in NEED too and that you are ALWAYS the answer.' - Ps 70:5

Current Series: How to deal with difficult people?
Needy People_Part2-by Pastor Jesse Elizondo (1/11/2015).

REALife Application

Talking through the message during the week helps you turn what God is saying to you into action steps. These talking points, questions, and scriptures are designed to help you take the next step. If you're leading a group through this guide, don't feel like you have to answer every question. Pick out those questions that will stir up conversation and action among your group.

- How do you typically react when you encounter needy people?

With your Bible or YouVersion, read Acts 3:1-10.

In this passage, Peter and John give a crippled man what he needed instead of what he asked for by healing his body and restore him to God.

- Describe a time when you received help but it did more harm than good because it wasn't what you really needed.
- In what ways have you seen the difference between relief and restoration?
- Why do you think our typical first reaction to needy people is to give them relief instead of restoration?
- What do you think would have happened to the crippled man if Peter and John had given him the money he had asked for?

Read Acts 3:6, Galatians 6:7, and Psalm 70:5.

These verses reflect the three prayers of the restorer.

- What kind of impact do you think the church would have if we focused more on restoration instead of relief when it comes to dealing with needy people?
- Why is it important that we don't continually rescue overly needy people from their own consequences?
- Who are some overly needy people that you can help restore? What steps will you take to restore them?
- Where do you need God's restoration in your life?

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