



Servant's Corner

September 2013

The Precariousness Of The Poor

By Rich Henderson, Love INC Director

*The rich man's wealth is his fortress, The ruin of the poor is their poverty.
Proverbs 10:15*

“Well that was an easy fix!” That was the comment I made after putting gas in her tank. I don't even know “her” name. I presume she is a single mom. She recently went on disability due to arthritis in her feet. This financial hardship caused her to move in with her sister. She borrowed a car from her aunt and was on her way to her aunt's house to get gas money. The stop after that was to get an MRI of her feet. Disability money wouldn't kick in until next week.

I met her on my drive to work. Her car was stalled out in the middle of the street. I pulled my car to the curb and went over to give her a push. Thankfully a couple of younger men noticed that the car was a too heavy for a 53 year old to push by himself and ran over to help me. Once we got her car safely to the curb, I did what I've seen other guys do—pop the hood. (Note to the ladies, this means absolutely nothing! Don't be fooled into thinking that a guy looking at your engine has any idea what's wrong with your car). She said her gas light just came on so I started with the obvious and went back to my house to get my gas can. After putting half a gallon in her tank, her car started up. I asked her if she needed help with gas and she nodded. I met her at the gas station across the street and put half a tank of gas in her car. That's when I made my comment about this being an easy fix.

What hit me is that it was an easy fix *for me*. It *wasn't* an easy fix *for her*. The times I've run out of gas were due to neglect. She ran out because she didn't have money for gas. It was a reminder to me of the precarious position that poor people live in—right on the edge of not having enough. My closing remark to her was to keep looking to the Lord to help her. May He use us to answer those prayers of the poor among us.



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