

can visit the bereaved, help with matters that must be taken care of (such as making decisions about all kinds of things); or just keep them company in the lonely hours until they can adjust to the great change. Perhaps they have an extra room or two that is not being used, which someone who is temporarily homeless could occupy, under an arrangement that might even cover cost. Perhaps they could pray for those who are standing for God and for morality in difficult, lonely, godless places.

Third, let us consider the person who says, "It would cost me too much to help others in need." For many people, any cost at all is "too much"! For many of them, the claim that "it would cost too much money" means that it would take away money earmarked for other things, some of which may be luxuries. For many of these people, the claim that "it would cost too much time" to help those in need means that it would take away time usually spent pleasing themselves, fulfilling their own desires and inclinations. For many of them, the claim that "it would cost too much energy" to help those in need means that it would take away energy usually devoted to the accomplishment of their own plans and purposes. For many of these people, the claim that "it would cost too much inconvenience" to help those in need means that it would take away some of their freedom to be able to spend money, time, and effort in ways that minister to their own ease and comfort. For many of these people, the claim that "it would cost too great a sacrifice" of their own goals and objectives to help those in need means that it would take away the opportunity of fulfilling some long-range goals and objectives as soon as they would wish, as well as the opportunity of fulfilling some short-range goals and objectives completely. For many of these people, the claim that "it would cost too great an expenditure" of themselves to help those in need means that it would take away some of their freedom to expend themselves wholly for themselves by doing whatever they wish to be or by doing whatever they wish to do.

Fourth, let us consider the person who says, "I know I ought to help those in need, but I really don't know how to go about it." Do they really mean this? Or is this just another attempt to evade the issue?

On the other hand it would seem that many people simply do not know how to go about helping those with particular needs.

For example, they would like to help those in need of food or clothing or medical care. There are agencies that assist people to help others with these needs. Some of these agencies spend entirely too much on administration of this help. Some do not guarantee that the help actually gets to those who are in need. And so some believers throw up