



## HOW TO NEIGHBOR – 2 OF 4 Empowering the Poor May 7, 2017

<sup>40</sup>...whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of Mine, you did for Me.  
--Matthew 25:40

<sup>17</sup>If you help the poor, you are lending to the Lord...  
--Proverbs 19:17 NLT

<sup>17</sup>If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? <sup>18</sup>Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.  
--1 John 3:17-18

### WHAT IS POVERTY?

- MOST AMERICANS DEFINE POVERTY AS A LACK OF SOMETHING **MATERIAL**.
- THE TRULY POOR DEFINE POVERTY AS A **MINDSET**.
- THE ROOT OF ALL POVERTY IS **BROKENNESS**.

<sup>18</sup>“The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because He has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, <sup>19</sup> to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.” --Luke 4:18-19

### WE ARE CALLED TO...

- 1) **SERVE** OTHERS, NOT **SAVE** OTHERS.
  - Relief: immediate, temporary help during and after a crisis.
  - Restoration: long-term relationship to rebuild wholeness.
- 2) **RELATE** WITH PEOPLE, NOT **RESCUE** PEOPLE.
- 3) **REACH OUT**, NOT **REACH DOWN**.