

# Our Neediness is God's Gift

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## Introduction

In the church we tend to distinguish sharply between a helper and the needy, between someone who needs discipling and a discipler. The biblical reality is something very different, because every person is both a needy person and a helper. The line between needy and helper goes straight through the middle of each of us, and not between us.

## You are very needy

Your neediness can become a gift that you give to strengthen the body of Christ. God has determined that needy ones are the very best helpers. Who would have thought that this would be the system for God's family?

As helpers we want to grow in being increasingly needy, and we want to grow in skill in helping others. We can ask ourselves questions to assess our own sense of neediness before God and before other people.

## Growing in neediness

Assuming you are able to identify areas to grow in your own neediness, Scripture then provides a way for the Spirit to grow you in neediness before God and others. Scripture can lead you to the delightful place where you say, "I give up. Lord, help."

One theme of Scripture is that we are creatures, and as creatures we are by definition, finite. We do not have all the gifts within ourselves, and we do not have all wisdom within ourselves.

Consider these passages:

- Job 38:4-7
- Romans 2:1
- Luke 18
- 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

## Faith means you are dependent on another

Faith and dependence mean that throughout your day you say, "I, indeed, need Jesus." Our goal is to accumulate passages of Scripture that help us to articulate our need.

Imagine if at your church the "cutting edge" of participation in the body of Christ is neediness.

## Conclusion

All of the fruits of the Spirit are animated by faith, neediness and humility: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control (Galatians 5:22-23). All of these are made lively by our neediness before God and before other people.