

He that gives to the poor shall not lack, but he that hides his eyes shall have many a curse. –Proverbs 28:27

Although there is abuse in welfare programs, we must never forget that there are many who are poor through no fault of their own. It is important that each of us reach a little deeper into our pockets to help those individuals who are less fortunate.

August H. Francke, a well-known preacher of the 17th century, founded an orphanage for homeless children who roamed the streets of Halle. Unfortunately, he always seemed to be in desperate need of money.

One day a Christian widow came to his door pleading for some help financially. When Pastor Francke told her that he had nothing to give her, she sat down and began to weep. Moved by her tears, he asked her to wait while he went into his room to pray. He felt God told him that this woman needed help and that he should be the one to give the assistance. He reached into his own pocket and gave her a small amount of cash. Two days later he received a note from the widow thanking him for his generosity. She also wrote that she had asked the Lord to shower the orphanage with gifts.

God answered her prayer, sending a flood of blessings. A rich lady sent him a substantial gift. This was soon followed by gifts from two Swedish men. Shortly thereafter, Pastor Francke was informed that Prince Lodewyk van Wurtenburg had died, leaving a substantial amount of money to the orphanage. Francke wept with joy! He had give what he could and God honored that gift by multiplying it many times over.

Question: Is it still true that he who gives shall not lack?