

# Homelessness

By Erica

Jermanus

Have you ever experienced homelessness or maybe you may know someone else who has. Then, this book may be a help with those going through hard and difficult times and seasons, whether it is homelessness or not.

## Table of Contents

Chapter 1: Homelessness and what to do?

Chapter 2: Homeless shelters, jobs, and financial assistance

Chapter 3: Calling for Christians to help the homeless

## Chapter 1: Homelessness and what to do?

Homelessness is on the rise today. There are so many that are without a home, and they may have had a home at one time but lost it due to a financial crisis or a job loss. Others may have gotten evicted or kicked out of their homes due to various reasons. Many that are homeless do not have a place to go. They do not have close friends or family members that they can stay with. Many of them do not have cars to sleep in and are left stranded on the streets.

There are homeless people that have kids and are stranded outside in the cold with their children. Some families cannot afford to buy food for their children or for themselves, and they go without eating for days. Many of them do not have jobs, or they lost their jobs due to layoffs or getting fired. A lot of them do not want to work or have jobs.

The sad part is that a lot of homeless people do not have Jesus Christ in their lives. A lot of them do not know Christ and are not saved or born again. Having Jesus Christ in your life is what makes a big difference. When you have Jesus Christ in your life, you have

eternal life and more. You have more than you could ever ask for because God will provide for you through your relationship with him. God will take care of you and make sure you have everything you need. Even if you are famished, he will still provide food for you. God cares for us so much and loves us even when we are going through pain and hardship.

A lot of homeless people today are addicted to drugs and alcohol. The sad part is that they do not want to seek help or intervention for their addiction. They want to continue to live that kind of lifestyle. Jesus Christ can truly deliver and set the captives free. But they have to be willing to get help and stop their addictions. There are rehab programs that homeless people can go to to get the help they need.

## Chapter 2: Homeless shelters, jobs, and financial assistance

For those who are homeless, I want to encourage you to look into homeless shelters in your area. There are some warming centers too that you can go to keep warm in the winter months. Some of the shelters you can go to for a warm meal and a shower. I know there

are some shelters that are open Monday through Friday. But you might want to do research online for homeless shelters in the area where you live. If you do not have access to a phone or the internet, maybe try to get to a public library to access the internet there.

Also, you may want to fill out job applications and apply for jobs in your area. Pray and ask the Lord where he wants you to work and what he wants you to do for a living. He will lead and guide you. You want to be inside God's will when it comes to a job or relationship. You can also apply for food assistance until you get back on your feet again. There are government programs such as food stamps that give you free monthly food. You can also apply for Medicare and Medicaid insurance, and those who have disabilities or are elderly may qualify for social security.

### Chapter 3: Calling for Christians to help the homeless

We as Christians are called to help the poor and needy. Whenever we see a homeless person, we are called to tend to their needs in any way we possibly can. We are called to help the underprivileged, whether that be homeless, widows, orphans, the fatherless, or the

motherless. We can even offer our homes to those that are less fortunate by showing hospitality. We can make sandwiches and give them to the homeless. Or we can give out warm blankets to the homeless on the streets. However the Holy Spirit leads and guides you. If you live in an area where there are homeless, you can be a blessing to those homeless in some way, shape, or form.

You can help out the homeless not just by giving them money but also by giving them your time and resources. You can have a genuine relationship with these homeless people and talk to them and get to know them. Sometimes these homeless people need a hug, a smile, or a prayer. These homeless people may just need salvation and the love of Christ in their lives. So they may need a believer to share the gospel with them or to give them a gospel tract. Or just being there for the homeless person and talking and listening to them is a blessing to them. In whatever way possible, you can help and be a blessing to do it and do it for the glory of God.