Relief AND Development

- -Relief is direct aid needed to meet immediate often lifethreatening needs.
- **-Development** is giving an individual, family, or entire community what they need to move beyond dependency on relief into self-sufficiency.

[After the news from Gabriel,] Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb.

And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me?

For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

And Mary sang, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for He has looked with favor on the lowliness of His servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is His name.

His mercy is for those who fear Him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly;

He has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of His mercy, according to the promise He made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

And Mary remained with her about three months and then returned to her home.

The theme of Mary's Magnificat is Kingdom Justice, Biblical Shalom.

- **To Caesar:** He will bring down the powerful from their thrones and lift up the lowly. God is my Savior.
- **To Herod:** The hungry will be filled with good things but the rich will be sent away empty by. The Mighty One has done GREAT things for me, not Herod the so called Great.
- **To the Religious Est:** He has looked at me with favor. The lowly-servant-girl is the blessed for generations.
- **To All of You:** His mercy is only for those who fear him. This king will scatter those whose hearts are proud.

1 Corinthians 1:26-29

Remember, dear brothers and sisters, that few of you were wise in the world's eyes or powerful or wealthy when God called you. Instead, God chose things the world considers foolish in order to shame those who think they are wise.

1 Corinthians 1:26-29

And He chose things that are powerless to shame those who are powerful. God chose things despised by the world, things counted as nothing at all, and used them to bring to nothing what the world considers important.

1 Corinthians 1:26-29

As a result, no one can ever boast in the presence of God.

My dear brothers and sisters, how can you claim to have faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ if you favor some people over others? For example, suppose someone comes into your meeting dressed in fancy clothes and expensive jewelry,

and another comes in who is poor and dressed in dirty clothes. If you give special attention and a good seat to the rich person, but you say to the poor one,

"You can stand over there, or else sit on the floor"—well, doesn't this discrimination show that your judgments are guided by evil motives? Listen to me, dear brothers and sisters. Hasn't God chosen the poor in this world to be rich in faith?

Aren't they the ones who will inherit the Kingdom he promised to those who love him? But you dishonor the poor!

