

# PACIFIC2NATIONS – Mission Training

## THE FULL GOSPEL Social & Mercy Ministry

### The Kingdom Of God and the Poor

Use of the word poor 245 times in the O.T.

Taken from six Hebrew words; can subdivide into four categories:

#### 1. Poor because of misfortune

A. Ebyon = Need/dependence (61 times)

Response – Social work (Job 29:15, 16)  
Compassion (Job 30:24-25)  
Hand-outs (Deut 15:11)  
Power of God (Matt. 11:3, 5)

B. Dal = frailty/weakness (67 Times)  
Dallah – The class of the frail poor

Response – uplift (1 Samuel 2:8)  
Voluntary redistribution – (Acts 4:32, 34) (James 1:9)  
Never to close our hearts – (John 3:16, 17)  
Hospitality – (Like 14:13, 14)

*“In the kingdom of God the unfortunate poor become the uplifted poor”*

#### 2. Those made poor by personal sins

C. Chaser = want, lack, inadequacy (36 times)

Causes: Wickedness – (Prov 13:25)  
Sleep/laziness – (Prov 6:10, 11)  
Hasty planning – (Prov 21:5)  
Oppressing the poor – (Prov 22:16)  
Loving pleasure – (Prov 21:17)  
Get rich schemes, gambling (Prov 28:18)

Responses: Preach the Gospel (Psa 23:1, Isa 61:1-4)  
Establish in discipleship (Psa 34:10)  
Bring the Kingdom of God (Rom 14:17)

Immorality, drunkenness leads to bitterness, hatred, jealousy, family orientation, ill-use of finances; children grow up with semi-paralysis in areas of emotions as well as malnutrition and resultant loss of mental facilities.

#### 3. Poverty caused by injustice/oppression

D. Rush/Yarash = the disposed ones (31 times)

Tenants forced off the land to make way for multi-national projects eg plantations to provide cheap food the rich

OR:

The enacting of unjust laws of land ownership (*institutionalized oppression*) to take land.

Response: “Say restore” (Isa 42:22)

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### 4. The humble poor as in white slavery

E. Ani = the afflicted poor (Amos 2:6, 7)

Responses:      Speak out  
                      Rescue children/girls  
                      Bring justice by destroying evil  
                      Structures destroyed that support the sin  
                      Seek reform

F. Ptochos or Anaw = New Testament word

Poor in spirit: one bowed over by oppression, one occupying a lowly position, has no one to turn to but a just God who defends the helpless.

“The humble poor of Yahweh = God’s poor ones”

“In the Kingdom of God the oppressed poor will be blessed as justice is done”

### **Suggestions for reaching the urban poor:**

1. Orders
2. Devotional communities. Vows of poverty, chastity, obedience
3. New mission’s structures
4. Older experienced couples
5. Attitude
6. Kingdom of God picture in their midst