

*My question is are we neglecting the poor and disobeying God because my mom said we can no longer help my friend? My friend and her husband along with her adult daughter and teenage daughter has been struggling with homelessness since last year. When she lost her oldest daughter it was around the same time she was being evicted from her home. Last year they lived in a motel for almost 8 months my mom and I live together and share income. Mom is my disability payee. We were helping with food and motel money even though my mom said it was hard on us. They found a place then the lady sold it and they moved in with another lady and she put them out so they ended up homeless again this year. Her and her husband get social security and food stamps but it runs out so fast because they stay in motel. When money runs out slow they stay in their car. Often they ask me to ask my mom to help with money. It has reached the point where my mom said we can no longer help. She has to take care of our household and she was worried if we would make it to the end of month because of the constant giving she can't budget money and she missed some payment because she still owes the attorney who tried to help us keep our house. We now live in apartment. When my dad passed away due to Parkinson's disease his family tried taking our house multiple times. When I told my friend what my mom said, she got very upset. She asked for a little bit and said we should not turn the poor away. And she used the example of the widow who gave all that she had. She told me I don't have a right to speak about praying for the poor because she believes my vision is distorted because of what my mom said. And she accuse my mom and I of having dead faith because we can no longer support them financially. My mom feels that she has given all that she can and told me she has to take care our household. Am I doing something wrong? She's also angry that I didn't make a DoorDash account after hers was cancelled. Her mom is dealing with grief on top of that. All the stuff she said hurt my feelings. She sent a very long message with a lot of hurtful stuff in it and deactivated her Facebook account. I'm sorry this question so long I need help.*

It is kind of you to be God's hands and feet providing charitable giving (Ps 34:17) and comfort to your friend in her time of need (Ro 12:15). God is close to the brokenhearted (Ps 34:18).

You are being a true friend (2 Co 7:6). James said that pure religion is caring for widows and orphans (Jas 1:27).

Your friend should acknowledge God in her planning (Pr 3:6, Eccl 11:1) and trust that he will provide (Ps 52:7, 2 Co 9:8). She, like the woman who gave two mites can learn to be generous as you have been (Lk 21:1-4). As your friend learns to rely less on others, she may also one day be able to offer material (1 Chr 29:1-19) and spiritual sacrifices (He 13:15, 16).

Suggest that she budget with sound economic principles rather than using resources to purchase extravagances like motels and Uber Eats. You will not be able to subsidize her lifestyle. Honor your mother by: caring for her and respecting her opinion and wishes (Ex 20:12).

Your friend must look to Jesus (He 12:2, 3) in these difficult days (Da 7:25).