



WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2

Those who are generous are blessed,
for they share their bread with the poor.

—Proverbs 22:9

This statement from Proverbs is a precept of love: we must cultivate love for one another. We affirm that the blessing received by those who carry out this word is doubled. First, we see how the lives of our brothers and sisters who live in need are transformed, and secondly, when we have a generous heart, our God blesses us more abundantly in whatever we undertake and in a way that we cannot even imagine.

One of my blessed experiences in life has been to work in my country, Honduras, with microfinance programs sponsored by Episcopal Relief & Development. Through these programs, the participants not only have the opportunity to be helped financially but also supported spiritually, since it is by means of these programs that we have shared the Good News of salvation.

We witness how lives are being changed in one way or another, and we hear the testimonials of women as they express their gratitude because they felt useful and empowered to be able to contribute to the economy in their homes. The happiness reflected in their faces is the best gift that can be received for our work.

Throughout the length and breadth of this world where the poor and marginalized are in great numbers, there is significant need of a friendly, generous hand to help these brothers and sisters to be builders of a better world—not only for themselves but also for their families, so they may have the opportunity to live with decency and with dignity.

—**Connie Sánchez**