

# Generosity absolute

By Bill Pugh



The wonderful response of people to the bushfire victims has reminded me of the response of the early Christians when the Spirit came upon them. Acts Chapter 4 records the story. The believers were of one heart and mind. Personal possessions were pooled and held in common. Homes and lands were sold, and the proceeds were laid at the apostles' feet. There was not a needy person among them. Even one of the priestly class, a Levite, sold a field and laid the proceeds at the feet of the apostles, who conferred on him a new name, Barnabas, which meant 'son of

encouragement'. Of course, the modern economy is structured differently to the ancient worlds. We have many needs which are met by taxes in the form of social service. But the world still has starving and homeless men, women and children. Many of different political persuasions are stateless and housed in refugee camps. indefinitely.

How we need something of the spirit of that early band of Christians when the Holy Spirit moved them to give and give again and not count the cost. Great grace was upon them all .

## Reflection:

Read Acts 4:32-37.

*In worship read or sing Sydney Carters wonderful words,  
"When I needed a neighbour were you there?". TIS 629*

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[www.victas.uca.org.au](http://www.victas.uca.org.au)