



“We All Have That Moment”

by Martha Plaehn

Study Guide

Martha begins her poem with “Everybody has that moment” and describes seeing a homeless person beside the road. In your community, what is “that moment” that everybody has?

She asks, “Why has humanity gotten to this?” So, why HAS humanity gotten to this? What are the factors that contribute to this rise in poverty and homelessness we currently see in America?

Martha says, “That man will never be like us.” Do you agree or disagree with her?

What do you think she means by “like us”?

What about that man is not “like us”?

What about that man IS “like us”?

What are the barriers that keep our neighbors who are living without homes from moving out of homelessness?

What are the resources available in your community that help your neighbors who are without homes?

She describes how we tend to “flee” from these scenes because we don’t want to have to look at or think about homelessness in our own community. In what ways do you “flee” from the issue of homelessness?

She quotes a recent statistic that over 560 people are living without housing each night in Asheville. Do you know how many of your neighbors are living without homes currently in your city or county? If you don’t know, how could you find out?

Read James 2:14-17. What does this passage have to do with our Christian response to issues like homelessness or food insecurity?

Martha ends her poem with “So what am I going to do about it?” So... what are you going to do about it? How can you, and/or your youth group, do something about homelessness in your own community? Make a plan!

Send your plan (along with your name and the city in which you live) to: socialmedia@youthmissionco.org. We would love to tell others about what you are going to do about homelessness in your community so it can inspire others to do the same!

Want to hear more from Martha?

Check out her interview video on our youtube channel: Youth Mission Co