

Students at Immanuel Christian School are gearing up for Thanksgiving. In doing so they are collecting for Gate 3-16. It's heartening when students choose to reach out beyond themselves.

Students are collecting food and toiletries for the homeless people in Oshawa who very much depend on the services of Gate 3:16. <http://gate3-16.bravehost.com/> While our students come to school each day with a generous lunch, they know that people using Gate 3:16 lack such basic care.

Having students collect for Gate 3:16 ties into our school theme. *Do not be anxious about anything...* Philippians 4:6a

The students in grade 5 & 6 dramatized this part of our theme in Chapel this morning. In sharing the story of Elijah's request to the widow and her son, they shared two clear points.

- The widow had to show trust and agree to Elijah's request.
- The widow was blessed, not with an abundance of food, but rather enough to provide her with a daily ration.

It seems easier to thank God when we lack abundance. When we lack abundance, we are reminded on a regular basis that we need to trust that God will provide. Each one of us learns that trust in different ways.

As a school we need to trust that God will provide. Each year we are dependent on prayer and donations from supporters who help keep tuition fees affordable. Each year when we open our doors in September we are exercising an act of faith. We are able to do that because we know and believe we are providing a service which is done out of obedience to God. We are giving hope and a future for many parents who want to raise their children to know Jesus and live as Christians.

One way we live as Christians is to reach out to the needs of the poor. We can do this in simple acts of kindness, collecting food for homeless. We can also reach out to the poor by influencing provincial politics to recognize that the poor must be helped.

Jasper Hoogendam  
COO/ principal

P.S. Value your freedom – exercise your vote on Thursday.