

## **First Lesson: Psalm 112 (NRSV)**

### **Blessings of the Righteous**

<sup>1</sup>Praise the LORD!

Happy are those who fear the LORD,  
who greatly delight in his commandments.

<sup>2</sup>Their descendants will be mighty in the land;  
the generation of the upright will be blessed.

<sup>3</sup>Wealth and riches are in their houses,  
and their righteousness endures forever.

<sup>4</sup>They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright;  
they are gracious, merciful, and righteous.

<sup>5</sup>It is well with those who deal generously and lend,  
who conduct their affairs with justice.

<sup>6</sup>For the righteous will never be moved;  
they will be remembered for ever.

<sup>7</sup>They are not afraid of evil tidings;  
their hearts are firm, secure in the LORD.

<sup>8</sup>Their hearts are steady, they will not be afraid;  
in the end they will look in triumph on their foes.

<sup>9</sup>They have distributed freely, they have given to the poor;  
their righteousness endures forever;  
their horn is exalted in honor.

<sup>10</sup>The wicked see it and are angry;  
they gnash their teeth and melt away;  
the desire of the wicked comes to nothing.

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## **Second Lesson: Acts 4:32-37 (NRSV)**

### **The Believers Share Their Possessions**

<sup>32</sup>Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. <sup>33</sup>With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. <sup>34</sup>There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. <sup>35</sup>They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need. <sup>36</sup>There was a Levite, a native of Cyprus, Joseph, to whom the apostles gave the name Barnabas (which means 'son of encouragement'). <sup>37</sup>He sold a field that belonged to him, then brought the money, and laid it at the apostles' feet.

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