A WORLD OF GOOD
A GLOBAL STRATEGY PODCAST

Alecia Swoope

Season 10, Ep. 4: Serving Your Community (2025)
www.chogglobal.org/S10E4 (31 min)

Key Takeaway

Effective support for people experiencing homelessness does not simply provide services but seeks to understand people, walk alongside them, and help create pathways toward healing, stability, and flourishing.

SUMMARY

In this episode, Andrew sits down with Alecia Swoope, chief operating officer at Church of God Ministries, to discuss her years of experience serving at Atlanta Mission, one of the oldest and largest Christ-centered homeless ministries in the United States. Alecia shares insights into the realities of homelessness, the importance of holistic care, and how churches can move beyond assumptions to build meaningful relationships with people experiencing housing insecurity. The conversation highlights the role of faith, dignity, community, and transformation in addressing homelessness and challenges listeners to see people rather than stereotypes.

Scripture passage: Matthew 25:31-46

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. *Listen: 7:03-8:09.* Alecia explains that Atlanta Mission's identity is rooted in Christian faith and that their work is motivated by a desire to reflect the love of Christ. How does faith shape the way we serve others? How does this connect to what Jesus says in Matthew 25?
2. *Listen: 13:28-16:20.* Why are relationships often just as important as material assistance? How can we serve people in ways that honor their dignity and worth?
3. *Listen: 19:43-23:10.* What assumptions do people often make about homelessness? How do the stories Alecia shared challenge or expand your perspective?
4. *Listen: 24:39-27:00. T*he conversation explores how healthy ministry goes beyond emergency relief to include life skills, education, relationships, spiritual growth, and long-term support. What does holistic transformation look like? How can churches become better community partners?

REFLECTION QUESTION

Alecia challenged listeners to move beyond assumptions and ask, “What do you actually need?” Think about an organization, ministry, or group of people in your community facing difficult circumstances. What is one step you can take this month to listen first, learn their real needs, and offer support in a meaningful way?