



White Christmas

Sunday, December 8, 2013

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Stepping Stones Community Church

Introduction:

- Dreaming of the perfect “White Christmas”
- A “White Christmas” begins with God’s love

God showed how much he loved us by sending his one and only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him. This is real love - not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins. Dear friends, since God loved us that much, we surely ought to love each other. **1 John 4:9-11**

Three attitudes toward others

- Keep your _____
- Curious but _____
- Treat others _____

There was once a man who was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho when robbers attacked him, stripped him, and beat him up, leaving him half dead. It so happened that a priest was going down that road; but when he saw the man, he walked on by on the other side. In the same way a Levite also came there, went over and looked at the man, and then walked on by on the other side. But a Samaritan who was traveling that way came upon the man, and when he saw him, his heart was filled with pity. **Luke 10:30-33**

Loving Others

1. _____ the needs of the people around me

... and when he saw him, his heart was filled with pity.

Luke 10:33

2. _____ with people’s pain

Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. **Galatians 6:2**

3. _____ the moment / _____ whatever it takes

He went over to him, poured oil and wine on his wounds and bandaged them; then he put the man on his own animal and took him to an inn, where he took care of him. The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper. ‘Take care of him,’ he told the innkeeper, ‘and when I come back this way, I will pay you whatever else you spend on him.’ **Luke 10:34-35**

Do not withhold good from those who deserve it when it’s in your power to help them. If you can help your neighbor now, don’t say, “Come back tomorrow, and then I’ll help you.”

Proverbs 3:27-28

Next Steps:

- I accept God’s love and I commit to follow him
- I commit to love in words and actions as I share God’s love this Christmas
- I confess that I have grown hardened to the needs of people around me and haven’t loved them as I should; with God’s help I will change
- I believe God is calling me to action with: _____ and I will show love in a practical way
- _____