LOVE LOUD

Blessing our community with no strings attached

Love Thy Neighbour
UNUSUAL KINDNESS
LOVE LOUD 2020

Acts 28:1-10

Once safely on shore, we found out that the island was called Malta. [2] The islanders showed us ***unusual kindness***. They built a fire and welcomed us all because it was raining and cold.[3] Paul gathered a pile of brushwood and, as he put it on the fire, a viper, driven out by the heat, fastened itself on his hand.[4] When the islanders saw the snake hanging from his hand, they said to each other, “This man must be a murderer; for though he escaped from the sea, the goddess Justice has not allowed him to live.”

Acts 28:1-10

5 But Paul shook the snake off into the fire and suffered no ill
effects. 6 The people expected him to swell up or suddenly fall
dead; but after waiting a long time and seeing nothing unusual
happen to him, they changed their minds and said he was a god.
7 There was an estate nearby that belonged to Publius, the chief
official of the island. He welcomed us to his home and showed us
generous hospitality for three days. 8 His father was sick in bed,
suffering from fever and dysentery. Paul went in to see him and,
after prayer, placed his hands on him and healed him.

Acts 28:1-10

9 When this had happened, the rest of the sick on the island came
and were cured. 10 They honoured us in many ways; and when we
were ready to sail, they furnished us with the supplies we needed.

Matthew 25: 44-45

“They also will answer, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?’45 “He will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.’…”

Kindness doesn’t just happen.

PEOPLE DO NOT NATURALLY DEFAULT TO KINDNESS.

Kindness incurs a cost.

KINDNESS WILL ALMOST ALWAYS REQUIRE SOMETHING OF US.

Kindness requires intentionality.

KINDNESS REQUIRES INTENTIONALLY MEETING A SPECIFIC NEED.

John 13:34-35

“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. 35 By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

1 Peter 4:7-10

7 The end of the world is coming soon. Therefore, be earnest and disciplined in your prayers. 8 Most important of all, continue to show deep love for each other, for love covers a multitude of sins. 9 Cheerfully share your home with those who need a meal or a place to stay. 10 God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another.

Kindness requires us to accept that there are people in need and that we are commissioned by God to play a part in serving that need.