

January 5, 2023

Seeing is Believing

[Isaiah 63:7-9](#)

I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord, the praiseworthy acts of the Lord, because of all that the Lord has done for us, and the great favor to the house of Israel that he has shown them according to his mercy, according to the abundance of his steadfast love. For he said, "Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely"; and he became their savior in all their distress. It was no messenger or angel but his presence that saved them; in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

We are given a reminder each year of God's steadfast love for us. If we are completely blind to what God does for us each and every day of our life and cannot see how much he loves us, we are given a day and a season each year to remind us of his unconditional love for us.

Although this day has been commercialized, it is a reminder--even to the unsaved. We call it "Advent:" a time to focus on what is coming. The world calls Christmas season a time for remembering that it more blessed to give than to receive and after the day passes, it goes back to the way it was without following through and remembering that the greatest gift was Jesus.

A few years back I had the privilege of driving men from Recovery Point to Steele Memorial Methodist Church for Celebrate Recovery program. I was privileged by the fact that I sat in on some meetings and heard stories of how lives became unraveled because they didn't know or had never heard of God's steadfast love for those in distress.

It was amazing to see lives changed, attitudes changed because of the relationships being built by sharing God's love. There were those whose lives were turned around wanting to go back into the world to become preachers because of accepting God's presence in their lives and being redeemed by his word. It is amazing to see God's love at work.

As we enter into the new year, let us open ourselves to being merciful to our fellow man. Let us share the good news with all we meet, but let us not only share with the less fortunate but let us make it a point of finding them, the unsaved so we can fulfill our duties as disciples.

Prayer: *Father God, we thank you for your presence in our lives. Give us understanding and strength that we may complete the assignment You have given us. We ask this in the name of Your Precious Son Jesus. Amen*

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