

NOTICE THE PEOPLE JESUS NOTICED

Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. — Philippians 2:1-4 (NIV)

It is because of people like you and churches like you that last year:

- *We provided 18,045,501 meals*
- *We impacted 324,467 children and families*

Experiences beg the question – what did Jesus look like? And how does that relate to our role as Christ followers?

My servant grew up in the Lord's presence like a tender green shoot, like a root in dry ground. There was nothing beautiful or majestic about his appearance, nothing to attract us to him. He was despised and rejected—a man of sorrows, acquainted with deepest grief. We turned our backs on him and looked the other way. He was despised, and we did not care. — Isaiah 53:2-3 (NLT)

I, you – WE, as Christ followers need to begin to see Jesus in the people we pass by on a daily basis.

“I see Jesus in every human being. I say to myself, this is hungry Jesus, I must feed him. This is sick Jesus. This one has leprosy or gangrene; I must wash him and tend to him. I serve because I love Jesus. — Mother Theresa

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light. — Matthew 11:28-30

“[Jesus], in the days of his flesh, became familiar with the outcasts. He sought them out that he might save them; he entered their homes; he found his way into the slums. Like some diligent officer of the police, he was willing to lodge where they lodged, eat at their table, and associate with their class to find them out. His mission was to seek as well as to save. Oh, see him stand, with arms wide open! Will that thief, who is justly executed for his crimes, be recognized by him? Yes, he will.” — Charles Spurgeon

“Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.” — Ephesians 4:2

Paul, who we know wrote Philippians, is often reminding the early believers in his letters to LOOK AT PEOPLE, NOT TOWARD OR PAST THEM.

- *We are all in this together*
- *All loved by Almighty God*
- *All adopted into His family*

“Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind.” — 1 Peter 3:8 (ESV)

To be “lowly and gentle of heart” and notice the people Jesus noticed we have to:

- *Be intentional*
- *Look at people*
- *Be the body of Christ together to serve him*