

County-Wide Chaplaincy

Thanks you!

May 2024

Be Like Jesus

Recently a guest speaker at our church encouraged us to read through the gospels and pay attention to what Jesus did. How did Jesus respond to various situations? We are actually called to imitate Him in our daily lives. This leads to the questions, "Am I a good representative of Jesus to others? Do I love others with His love? Am I patient, kind, forgiving..." Wow! Jesus sets the bar high and we are not Jesus, that is for sure, but what a great goal, what a great example!

The gospels hold so many examples of how Jesus loved others and served others and even healed others. There are also, however, examples of how He talked to His Father. He went away to pray. Am I following that example and is my prayer life an ongoing conversation with the Lord? In a recent chaplain meeting one of the women shared this observation she had pondered. "Should we not be talking to Jesus in our prayer life, in a way that if we were to wake up in heaven tomorrow, we would just continue the conversation?" Isn't that beautiful?

There was a time in my life when I remember hearing the phrase a lot, "What would Jesus do?" There were bracelets and stickers and all kinds of merchandise boasting the letters, WWJD. At the time I didn't appreciate it much, as it seemed so commercial and almost a cliché. But now when I think about those words, they are a great thought to continually have in our minds as we go through our days. If we are called to be imitators of Christ, we do need to be asking that question. We need to look to the Word to study what our Savior did when He walked this earth and rubbed shoulders with all kinds of people.

In my mind, I think our chaplains are a great example of this. When they are called out at inconvenient times, or are on calls that seem to take a very, very long time, they are being like Jesus. They are being patient and kind. They are helping carry a heavy load that most times a family never saw coming. Some calls are sweet and their presence is so appreciated. Some calls are just hard, as grief hits people in various ways. But I believe that always, they are seeking to be Jesus to the people they are called to serve. Please remember to pray for them. Some calls take a toll and the burden feels heavy, yet they seek to be a light in what is sometimes a pretty dark place. Please pray they show the love of Jesus by their presence, their actions, and their sweet spirit.

Thank you for your support of this ministry and may we all strive in our daily walk to be like Jesus.

Jan Richards

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