

Episode 92

But Peter said, "I have no silver and gold, but what I do have I give to you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk!"

- Acts 3:6

I'm not sure where it started, but over the past few months, I have found that kindness keeps popping up on my radar. I see it in the books I read, movies I watch, and even Olympic events. Here again in this chapter, it's the kindness of Peter that caught my attention, as he offers the beggar something far greater than a few coins.

It's the kindness of a coach who believes in the underdog, in spite of their past or rough upbringing, that makes the movie sing and leaves our hearts full. It's the kindness of a doctor who arranges treatment for a patient across the country so they can spend their last days out travelling rather than in a hospital bed, that fills us with admiration for their selfless contribution. It's the kindness of the understudy or apprentice or intern who stands by that self-centred diva even when their lives fall apart, that leads to a lasting friendship and moves us to watch the next season and even inspires us to do the same.

Scripture makes it clear that it's God's kindness that leads us to repentance. This means that kindness is able to change the atmosphere, soften hearts, and open blind eyes. Kindness creates a platform for the Spirit of God to move on even the hardest heart, to peel back defences, and let the gospel in.

In this chapter, Peter's kindness led to a lame beggar being given healing, freedom, and dignity, and this kindness in turn led to Peter sharing the gospel, allowing for many to surrender their lives to Jesus. Kindness is a powerful gift of God to and through his people. Let's be those who administer God's kindness and trust that as we do, He will bring repentance to our city.

ONE33