



CHRIST'S CHURCH  
OF THE CANYON

Mid-week Devotion  
January 3, 2021

## Snow player fatigue

Well, here we go again. Our first major snow storm has come and gone and I'm sure will be followed by several more. Along with the snow storms comes a certain amount of frustration that ultimately will end up as fatigue for those of us who call Wrightwood home. Wrightwood's a gorgeous place. Clear, clean fresh air. Smell of pines everywhere. Friendly people waving as you pass them on the street. Somewhat idyllic wouldn't you say? Until the snow comes. What once was an "oasis" in southern California now becomes a magnet to all and everyone living "down-the-hill." Southern Californians set their sights on the mountains and "that white stuff" and bee-line to Wrightwood in the 1,000's. This most recent storm was different for me. Previous storms brought up snow players and the road conditions funneled most of them away from our part of town, the east end suburbs. But, with the closure of Lone Pine Canyon Road at Orchard guess whose neighborhood many of the snow players traveled to and through to experience the recent downpour of "white stuff?" Right, mine. The hordes were getting closer and closer to our house. Hundreds (no exaggeration) were driving down our street looking for a place to stop, take pictures, and throw snowballs. It was like the mother of all sales at Walmart!! See, we've avoided the onslaught for several years and now they were literally in our backyard. Most come in groups. All shapes and sizes. The majority come with their families. Mom's and Dad's with lots and lots of little ones. And, I don't know any of them.

When we think of the word "neighbor" we think of it in the narrowest of context. You know, the folks next door with that dog that always barks. Or the guy across the street that warms up his diesel truck at 5AM. When Jesus uses the term "neighbor" in Matthew 22:36-40, He's using the term in the broadest context. But Jesus obviously wasn't considering the snow players from down below when discussing who is my neighbor, was He?? The question is how would Jesus treat them? How do we treat them as neighbors? I came up with a few bullet points that work for me:

- Treat them with respect and dignity
- *Smile a lot*
- Encourage them to be safe while on the hill
- *Smile a lot*
- Appreciate the fact that they're here with their families and children
- *Smile a lot*



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- Give "accurate" directions if they ask
- *Smile a lot*

So...what do we get? The knowledge that by treating them as neighbors we're walking in Jesus' footsteps. Acting as He would act. Too, after the latest hordes left, I found a brand-new pair of snow gloves on the side of the road. Winner winner, chicken dinner!!!

**Prayers**

"Farmer" Phil Spencer

"Doc" Soliday

Wulff's

**Updates**

- Each Sunday's sermon gets uploaded by Saturday afternoon
- Children's Ministry offers on-line programs every Sunday at 9AM (contact Andrea Littlefield or call the church office for more info)
- The Wells' and the Maust's host our youth (middle school and high school students) each Wednesday evening via ZOOM (contact the church office for more info)

Enjoying my new gloves,

Pr. Wayne