

Recap of 10/2/22 message by Joe Ricchuiti – Acts 28:4-16

1. *Why we find serving others difficult: we would rather be served than serve; to serve others elevates other's needs ahead of our own; the low status of some service; it interrupts our own pursuits; and feeling used by others.*
2. *What ways can we serve others:*
 - hospitality (Hebrews 13:1,2)
 - doing good to others (Proverbs 3:27)
 - sharing material goods (1 John 3:17-18)
 - supporting the Lord's work (2 Corinthians 8:4; 9:1)
 - being a peacemaker (Romans 14:9)
 - by personal involvement in other's lives (1 Thessalonians 5:11-15)
 - praying for others, both believers and unbelievers
3. *All people everywhere have the evidence of the existence of God: in nature (Psalm 19; Romans 1:18-20) and through conscience (Romans 2:14ff).*
4. *Many were healed on the island of Malta. Healing in the New Testament had a revelatory purpose – to reveal Jesus as the Messiah; an accrediting purpose – to authenticate Jesus' claim to be the Son of God. The apostles ministry of healing and miracles was to confirm and authenticate their ministries and to identify them with Jesus' ministry and message.*
5. *The ministry of encouragement is one of the most powerful ministries a believer can exercise.*
 - "One of the highest of human duties is the duty of encouragement. It is easy to pour cold water on their enthusiasm; it is easy to discourage others. The world is full of discouragers. We have a Christian duty to encourage one another. Many a time a word of praise or thanks or appreciation or cheer has kept a man on his feet. (Barclay)
6. *How are we actively and practically encouraging one another in the Body of Christ?*