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LOVING THE UNLOVEABLE

Most of us are able to do the natural hygienic things like bathe and brush our teeth. Most have the ability to wash their clothes and keep themselves from smelling. Yet there are many that do not have that ability. They are homeless.

One Sunday morning a Pastor dressed like a homeless person. He put on ragged clothing and an old wig. He made sure he did not smell good by smearing dirt on his face and clothing and stepping into something a dog left behind. He didn't shave and his face looked unpresentable to what most of us would call pleasing.

Outside his church by the door entrance was a tree. The Pastor sat by the tree and tried to speak to the members of his church as they went into the door. Most didn't get near him because of the smell, but some avoided him by stepping around the area he was in.

At 10:00 when the service was to begin, everyone was wondering where the Pastor was, because he always was up front awaiting the start of the service. Little did they know it was him outside by the tree. He waited by that tree until all that he knew got inside. The door was shut.

He got up from the ground and went to the door and opened it. Everyone inside gasped as this "filthy" man walked down the aisle. No one invited him to sit by them. Faces turned away and a few people even gagged at the smell. As he reached the front pew, the deacons tried to lead him back outside, but he resisted them and continued down front to the altar.

There he turned around and faced the congregation. He took off the dirty shirt, and shoes, and took off the wig. He wiped his face, and then said. You have just heard my sermon for the day.

There are many in the condition that the Pastor played the role of. They may have lost their job, or perhaps lost themselves in drugs and addictions. Yet, these are the very ones that need Jesus the most. They are the ones that need his helping hand. They are the ones that need the hope that only he can give.

It is our choice to walk by them, or be the hand extended to bring them to a loving savior that will take them like they are, clean them up and give them eternal life.

Matthew 25:44-45 says, ***"Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee? Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me."***