

Music That Avoided Arrest

There's an old story about the 20th century violin virtuoso Fritz Kreisler. It illustrates an important point.

Setting out from Hamburg, Germany, one day to give a concert in London, Kreisler had an hour before his boat sailed. He wandered into a music shop, where the proprietor asked if he might look at the violin Kreisler was carrying.

Kreisler obliged, and the proprietor took the violin, vanished and returned with two policemen, one of whom told the violinist, "You are under arrest!"

"What for?" asked Kreisler.

"You have Fritz Kreisler's violin," the policeman replied.

"I am Fritz Kreisler," protested the musician.

"No, you're not," said the officer. "Come along."

As Kreisler's boat was sailing soon, there was no time for prolonged explanations. Kreisler asked for his violin, and played a piece he was well-known for.

"Now are you satisfied?" he asked.

The policeman let the musician go because he had done what only Fritz Kreisler could do.

What's the lesson for us?

Disciples of Christ need to do what they are known for doing, what only they can do.

Jesus said, "By this everyone will know that you are My disciples, if you love one another (John 13:35 NIV).

Of course, the kind of love of which Jesus spoke was the divine, agape love that He has for us and that He demonstrated by His life and sacrificial death. This is an unconditional love and one that only a disciple – one who has experienced Jesus' love and forgiveness – can manifest.

So, do what only a disciple of Christ can do. Love and serve others – the calling we have in Life Care and Century Park – with the same love you have received in Christ.

– Beecher Hunter

