

Turning Jefferson Away

In the late 1700s, the manager of Baltimore's largest hotel refused lodging to a man dressed like a farmer because he thought the fellow's appearance would discredit his inn. So the man left.

Later that evening, the innkeeper discovered that he had turned away none other than Thomas Jefferson. Immediately, he sent a note to the famed patriot, asking him to come back and be his guest. Jefferson replied by instructing his messenger as follows: "Tell him I have already engaged a room. I value the good intentions highly, but if he has no place for a dirty American farmer, he has none for the Vice President of the United States."

Are we guilty of pushing the Lord aside in our lives because we disregard folks who are needy? Christ may be in the small child who needs attention, the exhausted wife who needs encouragement, or the frustrated certified nursing assistant who needs recognition.

When we show kindness to anyone with needs, we do so unto Christ.

--Beecher Hunter