Going the second mile

**Reading: Matthew 5:38-41**

***[verse 41] And who ever compels you to go one mile, go with him two***.

**Charity By Definition Goes The Extra Mile**

***(1 Corinthians 13:1-7) Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. {2} And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. {3} And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing. {4} Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; {5} does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; {6} does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; {7} bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.***

**Those Going the 2nd Mile Have A Better Understanding Of What Religion Is All About**

**Luke 15 -The Prodigal Son. Luke 10 - The Good Samaritan**

***[2 Corinthians 8:2]*** the churches of Macedonia***...in a great trail of afflictions and their deep poverty abounded unto the riches of their liberality.***

As an individual do you only do what the Lord compels you to do?

**Going The 2nd Mile Brings Out The Best In Others**

***But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you...For if you love them which love you, what reward have you? Do not even the publicans the same? And if you salute your brethren only, what do you more than others. [Matthew 5:44-47]***

**Going The Extra Mile Would Ease Many Of Life’s Burdens**

It would save many a marriage if each partner were looking out for the other’s happiness & welfare.

Going the second mile would save many a church from a split. Did they go the second mile towards their attitude in order to resolve this ***matter in the bond of peace and the spirit of love?***

**the great example *John 3:16*** is proof positive that God went the extra mile for mankind.

 ***God*** the greatest Giver

 ***So loved*** the greatest motive

 ***The world*** the greatest need

 ***That He gave*** the greatest act

 ***His only Son*** the greatest gift

 ***That whosoever*** the greatest invitation

 ***Believes in Him*** the greatest opportunity

 ***Should not perish*** the greatest deliverance

 ***But have eternal life*** the greatest joy

God went the extra mile for us to teach us to go the extra mile for our neighbor. ***[2 Peter 3:9]*** God is ***long-suffering toward us, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.***

This long-suffering finds its epitome in ***[Luke 23:34]*** when Jesus says...***Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.***