

PENINSULA CHRISTIAN FELLOW SHIP

Adjusted Perspective

Shaking off Un-Thankfulness

Acts 28:1-10

Paul's Journey Leading up to this

Malta

Not recognized because of perspective

Meaning

Greek – Honey

Phoenicians – Refuge

Malta is sweet (honey) refuge

Unusual kindness Shown to this shipwrecked group
of sailors, soldiers, and criminals

How amazing would it be to have this be the way
someone describes you.

Paul sets an excellent example

Servant Leadership

- Gathers wood for the fire
- He was cold and wet
- I am sure he was sore and hurting
- Desiring to just sit and warm by the fire
- There were plenty of other people, the locals the other 275 from the boat

Why? Because he is willing to put others needs
before his own. Genuine leadership starts with
serving others even when it is unpleasant for you.

Luke 22:26-27

Paul gathers wood

Puts the wood on the fire

And a snake in the bites him

Not just a bite but full on attached (v. 3-4)

The locals just watch and wait for him to drop
dead.

Why?

- They know the snakes on this island and what their bite does.
- There must not be a cure otherwise they would have used it.

Symptoms of toxic un-thankfulness

- Doubt
 - o Genesis 16:2
 - o Reaction – Taking things into your own hands
- Jealousy
 - o Genesis 3:1-7
 - o Reaction – disobedience and taking things into your own hands
- Impatience & disgruntled
 - o Numbers 21:4-9
 - o Reaction – Complaining and fear

Toxic un-thankfulness leads to judgment and
punishment

Romans 1:18-32

v21 Yes, they knew God, but they wouldn't worship him as God or even give him thanks... As a result, their minds became dark and confused.

How did Paul handle his scenario?

His reaction seemed unconcerned

He shook the snake off into the fire

How would you handle this situation?

Like having faith to look at the bronze snake to be healed, Paul in faith looks at the cross knowing that God keeps His promises. (Acts 23:11)

Paul stops toxic un-thankfulness from entering his body by shaking off the source of the toxin and trusts God

The locals believe He is a God, and Paul shows them that it is the God in him

God is glorified and an entire island is healed physically and spiritually

1 Timothy 1:15-17

Where are the areas of your life where you see symptoms of toxic un-thankfulness trying to eat away at you?

How do we adjust our perspective and receive the anti-toxins

Psalm 91:2

Dwell with Him

Trust Him not yourself

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Rejoice

Pray

Give thanks

Accept His will

Like Malta we might not always recognize where God has placed us or why we are stopping there. When focusing on His will, even in the worst storms, we can say He is our Sweet Refuge and have a heart of thankfulness!