

BE OPENED!
Acts: 10:44-48

In a Peanuts comic strip Charlie Brown and Linus come across Snoopy who is shivering in the snow. Charlie says, "Snoopy looks kind of cold, doesn't he?"

"I'll say," replies Linus, "maybe we'd better go over and comfort him."

They walk over to the dog, pat his head, and say, "Be of good cheer, Snoopy."

"Yes, be of good cheer."

In the final frame, the boys are walking away, still bundled up in their winter coats. Snoopy is still shivering, and over his head is a big "?".

The message of the cartoon was powerful. The most noxious lifestyle of all is when compassionate words come from a care-less heart. Snoopy would no doubt prefer a blanket over a greeting. A compassionate heart reflects the heart of God.

The Good News is that the Kingdom of God is not a pat on the head. God's love and grace is not limited by geography. God's grace and love is for all, it is not limited by race, or creed, or political persuasion. God's grace is not a mere gesture or word of well wishing. God's Grace is God in action in our world through you. May your heart be filled with Compassion that moves you to actively share God's love with others.

God bless,
Pastor Barbara