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Such Love

Two years ago as I was travelling home from the South of France the caravan I was towing suddenly swung around into the passenger side of my car. The caravan turned over and I just managed to steer the car into the crash barrier which brought us to a gentle halt. My wife and I stepped out of the car totally unhurt and unshaken. As we looked at the caravan on its side, the rear of the car which was 3 feet off the ground, my wife said, "That's done it". Somehow all the traffic stopped. Immediately people emerged asking how we were. I kept saying "we are fine". I felt amazed about our survival. I stood and watched the gendarmes sweeping up the contents of the caravan and shovelling it back into the smashed van. Everyone was so kind and helpful. A taxi driver took us from the garage to a super store, to buy two suit cases and then back to the wrecks to collect as many clothes as possible. He was so kind.

In a world where there is so much cruelty beyond understanding, hatred and selfishness, there are still millions of unsung heroes providing love, care and help to others. Will the negatives ever change? No. Will politics, will force, will religion change it? No. But love, care and compassion will help. To be confronted in a crisis by people who care is helpful, calming and even healing. We need an example and who better than Jesus who cared for the sick, the destitute and the rejected. His public life covered 3 years of unending caring for people. Jesus reminds us to love one another. Christmas is a real opportunity to seek that real sacrificial love from the source and share it with others.