

10-18-17 Awful driving weather

Matt is a devout Christian who went to the state capital to protest a pending legislation. I don't even know the issue. He found himself in wind and rain standing beside protesters from the other side of the issue.

The situation was tense. The man next to him carried an opposing sign, so Matt uttered a silent prayer, "God, what do you want?"

Matt then turned to the man next to him and asked, "Did you have to drive through all this rain to get down here?" The man paused, wondering, perhaps, if he should even answer this man representing the wrong side. But then he said, "Yes, we did, and it was awful driving weather."

And that was all it took: One second of letting go and just being people who had to drive through the bad weather to get there. Matt and the man talked for thirty minutes. "Where are you from?" "What do you do?" "What church do you attend?" "What kind of farming do you do?" "Do you get to see your grandkids very often?"

Well, sometimes that's all it takes: saying a prayer, letting go, and finding our common humanity.

Just a thought. I'm Sid Batts from First Presbyterian Church in downtown Greensboro, overlooking Fisher Park.