**Jesus Help Me to Be Kind Like You**

**by Pastor Fee Soliven**

**Ephesians 4:29-32**

**Sunday Morning**

**November 8, 2020**

**Ephesians 4:29-32**

29 Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers. 30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

31 Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. 32 And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ forgave you.

**Kindness is one of our most Desirable Qualities**

Saints, it’s an attractive character trait that has nothing to do with physical appearance. Although it’s an internal virtue, it expresses itself externally in action. We’re naturally drawn to people who treat others graciously, and God desires this attribute for all His children

**Titus 3:1-6**

1 Remind them to be subject to rulers and authorities, to obey, to be ready for every good work, 2 to speak evil of no one, to be peaceable, gentle, showing all humility to all men. 3 For we ourselves were also once foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving various lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful and hating one another.

4 But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, 5 not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, 6 whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior...

**The apostle Paul wrote a letter to the Ephesians giving them instructions regarding two contrasting attitudes**

First of all, he said to put away bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, slander, and malice because they no longer fit our new identity in Christ.

**Ephesians 4:31**

31 Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice.

Saints, when we were saved, we became new creatures, transformed by the Holy Spirit into Christ’s image. Instead of being defensive and demanding, we are now called to be kind, tender-hearted, and forgiving!

**Ephesians 4:32**

32 And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ forgave you.

Since Paul was writing from prison, he had every right to be bitter because of his mistreatment, yet he advocates a courteous, compassionate, forgiving attitude. This shows us that kindness is an appropriate response for every circumstance.

Saints, if we’ll allow the Holy Spirit to live through us, we too can display kindness to others even in the most trying situations.

**1. God is Kind**

**Psalm 145:17**

The LORD is righteous in all His ways, Gracious in all His works.

He always keeps His Word. Even His discipline of the rebellious is

evidence of His kindness.

**Joel 2:13**

"So rend your heart, and not your garments; Return to the LORD your God, For He is gracious and merciful, Slow to anger, and of great kindness; And He relents from doing harm.

Saints, He doesn’t ration His grace and goodness but lets it overflow into our lives

**Galatians 2:20-21**

20 I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. 21 I do not set aside the grace of God; for if righteousness comes through the law, then Christ died in vain."

**2. God’s Kindness is Manifested through You!**

Saints, once we’ve trusted Christ as our personal Savior, our sins are forgiven and we receive a clean slate. The Holy Spirit seals us as children of God and begins to express His fruit of kindness in us as we submit to Him.

**Galatians 5:22-26**

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. 24 And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. 26 Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

Every believer can become a person characterized by consideration and thoughtfulness.

**3. God always Expresses Kindness to Us!**

But sometimes we misunderstand His actions. For instance, we may think His discipline is harsh but it’s really evidence of His loving care. Knowing that sin reaps a painful harvest, He intervenes to correct us. Kindness is God’s desire for each of us.

**Proverbs 3:3**

“Do not let kindness and truth leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart.”

**Zechariah 7:9**

“Dispense true justice and practice kindness and compassion each to his brother.”

**Colossians 3:12-15**

12 Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; 13 bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do.

14 But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection. 15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful.

**Definition of Chosen:**

a person or persons chosen by God, especially for favor or salvation.

**Why is Kindness Learned?**

**Galatians 5:19-21**

19 Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, 20 idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, 21 envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

The Scriptures offer four examples of kindness:

**1. Joseph**

After being mistreated by his brothers, Joseph could have taken vengeance on them, but He forgave them saying,

**Genesis 50:20**

 “You meant evil against me, but God meant it for good”

**2. Jesus**

When Christ met a Samaritan woman at a well, He didn’t ignore her, as was the custom of the Jews. Instead He offered her... “water springing up to eternal life."

**John 4:14**

"but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life."

**3. The Good Samaritan**

Upon seeing an injured Jewish man lying in the road, a Samaritan stopped to help him, took him to an inn, and paid the owner to care for him.

**Luke 10:33-35**

33 But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was. And when he saw him, he had compassion. 34 So he went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; and he set him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him.

**4. The Jailer**

When an earthquake opened the doors of a Philippian prison where Paul and Silas were held in stocks, the jailer was terrified and asked how he could be saved (Acts 16:23-34). Paul and Silas

explained. Upon believing and receiving Christ, the jailer returned the kindness of Paul and Silas, and took them home and fed them.

**Acts 16:30-34**

30 And he brought them out and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" 31 So they said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household." 32 Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house.

33 And he took them the same hour of the night and washed their stripes. And immediately he and all his family were baptized. 34 Now when he had brought them into his house, he set food before them; and he rejoiced, having believed in God with all his household.

**What are the Qualities of a Kind Person?**

**The Attributes Points of Kind People**

• Gives • Forgives • Smiles, even in tough situations • Is willing to be second • Is attractive • Does not insist on having his or her own way • Takes pleasure in pleasing others • Has a pleasant disposition • Has concern and care for others

• Is gentle • Is warm-hearted • Is unselfish • Is generous • Is understanding • Is considerate • Is thoughtful • Is healing • Is merciful • Uses kind words • Is helpful • Is courteous • Excuses mistakes • Is goodness in action • Beautifies everything......

**How can you Develop a Kind Spirit?**

**1. Allow the Holy Spirit to produce His fruit in you.**

Christlike kindness can only be developed as you walk in obedience to His Spirit.

**Galatians 5:16**

"I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh."

**2. Lay aside all the attitudes that don’t fit who you are like selfishness, pride, and a critical spirit.**

**Proverbs 16:18-19**

18 Pride goes before destruction, And a haughty spirit before a fall. 19 Better to be of a humble spirit with the lowly, Than to divide the spoil with the proud.

**3. Treat others as you’d like to be treated courteously and thoughtfully.**

**Matthew 22:37-40**

37 Jesus said to him, " 'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' 38 This is the first and great commandment. 39 And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' 40 On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."

**4. Focus on the needs of others and not on yourself. Discover how you can meet their needs.**

**Galatians 6:10**

"Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith."

**5. Ask God to help you develop the attitude of kindness. He will faithfully remind and prompt you to be thoughtful and caring.**

**James 1:5**

"If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him."

**6. Practice kindness** **when situations tempt you to respond harshly, see them as God-given opportunities to bless others with kind words and actions.**

**James 1:19-20**

19 So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath; 20 for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

**In Closing:**

**1. What do your reactions to irritation or frustration reveal about you?**

**2. What can you do to more fully cooperate with the Holy Spirit so His fruit of kindness will be more evident in your life?**

**3. How do you treat family members?**

**4. How can you ensure that courtesy rules in your home?**

**5. God’s kindness is constant. How is He kind in the midst of sickness, financial trouble, emotional pain, or other suffering?**

**6. What do you think is His loving purpose for allowing pain and difficulty in our lives?**

Saints, Soon and Very soon, Jesus is about to appear, we are almost out of here!

**1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**

13 But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus.

15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. 16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.

17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. 18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.

**The Little Video >**

**1 Corinthians 15:50-54**

50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption. 51 Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed-- 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. 54 So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory."

**Short Movie Slide>**

**Acts 2:38-39**

38 Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call."

**Let's Pray!**

**Benediction**

**"May The LORD bless you and keep you, May The LORD make His face shine upon you, May The LORD be gracious to you, May The LORD lift up His countenance upon you, and give you His (Shalom) peace." '**