

"Through what Christ would do for us, God decided to make us right in His eyes, without a single fault, we stand before Him covered with His love."

Ephesians 1:4 Living Bible

We stand before God without fault, covered with His love.

Why? Because of His kindness.

He has been very kind and patient, waiting for you to change, but you think nothing of his kindness. Perhaps you do not understand that God is kind to you so you will change your hearts and lives.

Romans 2:4

How do I model Christ-like kindness? By forgiving others.

... be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you.

Ephesians 4:32

"Accept one another then just as Christ has accepted you." Romans 15:7

"Show respect for everyone."

I Peter 2:17

"Encourage one another and build each other up."

I Thessalonians 5:11

"In response to all God has done for us, let us outdo each other in being helpful and kind to each other..."

Hebrews 10:24

Community Group Questions:

1. What's the difference between kindness and niceness?
2. List ways you can do better at kindness.
3. Love is kindness with feet, who needs you to be kind to them?

Sierra Community Church July 2nd, 2023 Part 5 Fruits of the Spirit- Dan Wilvers



**Walking by the Spirit
Kill Em with Kindness**

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, **kindness**, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. ²⁴ Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵ Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

Galatians 5:22-25

For God knew his people in advance, and he chose them to become like his Son.

Romans 8:29

Kindness and God's Heart

The Lord has told you, human, what is good; he has told you what he wants from you: to do what is right to other people, love being kind to others, and live humbly, obeying your God.

Micah 6:8 (New Century Version)

Revised standard Version says it this way:

He has told you, O mortal, what is good, and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice and **to love kindness** and to walk humbly with your God?

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, *clothe yourselves* with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Colossians 3:12

Part 1- You are to put on kindness

- **How important is kindness?** So important that God sent us an example.

But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, Titus 3:4

The only verse in the New Testament
where Jesus tells us what's in His heart.

Matthew 11:29,30

Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

Author Dane Ortlund from his book "Gentle and Lowly"

"The posture most natural to Jesus isn't a pointed finger but open arms. You don't need to unburden yourself or collect yourself and then come to Jesus. Your very burden is what qualifies you to come."

³⁰ For my yoke is **easy** and my burden is light." Matthew 11:30

The Greek word for **easy** is *Chrestos*,

The same Greek word Paul uses in Ephesians 4:32:

"Be kind (Chrestos) to one another."

Jesus yoke is kindness, think of that!

Application: 1st way I can be kind to others is by being available.

In the Story of the Good Samaritan, two Jewish religious leaders pass by the man beaten on the side of the road. The Samaritan however stops what he is doing and ministers to this man's needs

So Jesus asks, "Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?" The expert in the law replied, "The one who had mercy on him." Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise." Luke 10:36,37

Pastor Steve Stroope-"The great enemy of kindness isn't cruelty it's busyness."

Part 2. Kindness is being honest without being brutal.

Wounds from a sincere friend are better than many kisses from an enemy.

Proverbs 27:6

We will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ,

Ephesians 4:15

Application: 2nd way I can be kind is caring enough to confront

An honest answer is the sign of a true friendship.

A real friend tells you when you're making a mistake.

A real friend says, "I'm not going to stand by and watch you make the stupidest decision of your life."

A real friend walks in when other people walk out.

"Let the godly strike me! It will be a kindness! If they correct me, it is soothing medicine. Don't let me refuse it."

Psalms 141:5

So here's the secret to speaking the truth in love:

Be the kind of friend who asks others, *"How can I do better at home or work, at play?"*

You set the tone for correction by asking for correction as a course in every day life.

What's the difference between critical rebuke and kind rebuke?

The difference is motive. Are you doing it to put them down or to build them up?

Kindness believes conviction can have meaning without being mean.