

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT



Fruit *of* *the* Spirit

evidence that God is at work in your life

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

- **Galatians 5:22-23** — *“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.”*

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

- God the Father wants to transmit and impart **9 specific elements** of the fruit of the Holy Spirit up into our personalities

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

- God wants all of us to enter into a true sanctification process with Him so that He can begin the process of molding, shaping, and transforming us into the express image of His Son Jesus Christ

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

- When we're filled with the Holy Spirit we'll evidence the **fruit of the Spirit** in our lives

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT



Fruit *of*
the Spirit

Kindness

KINDNESS

- Kindness seems to be pretty nondescript/ordinary on the surface
- But when you start to really think about it, kindness is remarkable and inspiring

KINDNESS

- ***"The practice of being or the capability to be sympathetic and compassionate"*** – **Encarta Dictionary**

GREEK WORD FOR KINDNESS

- **CHRESTOTES** –
denotes goodness of heart,
kindness, graciousness, and
includes gentleness

GREEK WORD FOR KINDNESS

- **CHRESTOTES** – Kindness has many synonyms: benevolence, generosity, mercy, charity, philanthropy, sympathy, compassion, tenderheartedness, friendliness, etc.

KINDNESS

- Kindness may be one of the most underrated fruits on the fruit stand
- The exhibition of the fruit of kindness can literally change the lives of those around us

KINDNESS

- How many times in your life have you felt discouraged or felt like everything was against you only to be met by someone who was willing to show kindness to you
- I wonder how many lives have been changed by someone showing the fruit of kindness

KINDNESS

- So this simple nondescript fruit - what is it and why it can be so powerful and life changing?

KINDNESS

- “***Kindness***” is not just a sweet disposition: it is a serving, productive trait as well

KINDNESS

- It relates to tender concern for others
- It has nothing to do with weakness or lack of conviction but is the genuine desire of a believer to treat others gently, just as the Lord treats him

KINDNESS

- “***Kindness***” is more than compassion
- The very of nature of exhibiting kindness to another person makes that person have a sense of worth and usefulness

KINDNESS

- By exhibiting kindness to another person we are affirming their worth as a person, we are telling them that they are important enough for us to be inconvenienced, by them or that we would give them special attention

KINDNESS

- ***“More people have been brought into the church by the kindness of real Christian love than by all the theological arguments in the world” — William Barclay***



JESUS OUR BEST EXAMPLE

(1) He showed the worth of the children (Matthew 19:13-14)

- Jesus by allowing the children to come to Him, showed them their worth to Him
- The children were important to Him

Then children were brought to him that he might lay his hands on them and pray. The disciples rebuked the people, but Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven.”

~ Matthew 19:13-14 ESV

JESUS OUR BEST EXAMPLE

(2) He understands our weakness (Hebrews 4:15-16)

- Jesus walked in our shoes so He can relate to us
- When we understand other people and can walk in their shoes, we will treat them with kindness & we will make them feel worthy

Hebrews 4 : 15, 16

¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are - yet was without sin.

¹⁶ Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

JESUS OUR BEST EXAMPLE

(3) He forgives my sins (Romans 3:23-24)

- It is hard to be kind to those with whom you do not forgive
- Jesus has forgiven our sins



For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,
and all are justified freely by his grace
through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

Romans 3:23-24

JESUS OUR BEST EXAMPLE

(4) He affirms my worth (Psalm 139:15-17)

- By dying on the cross, by that very act of kindness, my worth is affirmed
- It does not matter what the rest of the world thinks about me, Jesus says I have a high self-worth

MY FRAME WAS NOT HIDDEN FROM YOU, WHEN I
WAS BEING FORMED IN SECRET, AND INTRICATELY
AND SKILLFULLY FORMED AS IF EMBROIDERED
WITH MANY COLORS IN THE DEPTHS OF THE
EARTH.

Your eyes have seen my unformed
substance;

And in Your book were all written
The days that were appointed for me,

When as yet there was not one of
them [even taking shape].

How precious also are Your thoughts
to me, O God!

HOW VAST IS THE SUM OF THEM!

~~~Psalm 139:15-17~~~

# HOW TO DEVELOP KINDNESS

- **Be aware of what kindness can do for others**
- Exhibiting kindness to others can have dramatic effects on the lives of others

# HOW TO DEVELOP KINDNESS

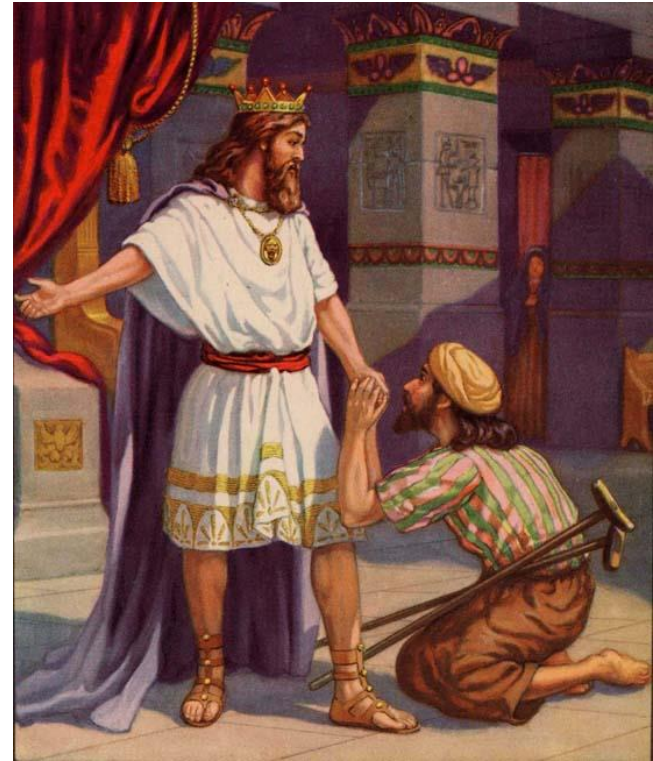
- **Be willing to be inconvenienced**
- E.g. the good Samaritan





# HOW TO DEVELOP KINDNESS

- Remember that others have been kind to you
- E.g. David and Mephibosheth **II Samuel 9**



# **HOW TO DEVELOP KINDNESS**

- **Remember that God has shown you kindness**

# KINDNESS

- You never know when your kindness could change the life of another person
- God wants His people to be kind
- When we allow the Spirit to grow in our lives, we will be able to be kind to those around us
- The ultimate act of kindness was Jesus dying for you

# KINDNESS

- ***"Kindness is a language the dumb can speak and the deaf can hear and understand."*** –  
**Christian Nestell Bovee**





**NEXT**

**GOODNESS**