

KILL THEM WITH KINDNESS

Galatians 5:22-23, Colossians 3:12

- ***When have you experienced kindness or a lack of kindness from others, and how did those expressions of kindness or unkindness affect you?***
- *"The Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control."* (Galatians 5:22-23)
- **Kindness is the Greek word "chrestos" which also means "to be useful, good, helpful, suitable."**
- *"Love is kind."* (1 Corinthians 13:4)
- **Kindness is "love in action", and it's something we can "put on" on a daily basis (Colossians 3:12).**
- *"Since God chose you to be the holy people He loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience."* (Colossians 3:12)
- **Kindness is a mark of spiritual maturity.**
- *"A servant of the Lord must not quarrel but must be kind to everyone, be able to teach, and be patient with difficult people."* (2 Timothy 2:24)
- ***What steps can we take to become a "kinder person" toward others?***

To Become A Kinder Person We Need To:

BE MORE SENSITIVE TOWARDS OTHERS

- **We need to become more aware of the needs of people around us.**
- *"Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too."* (Philippians 2:4)
- **Almost everyone we meet needs kindness because almost everyone is hurting in some type of way.**
- **God blessed David because of his kindness to Mephibosheth (2 Samuel 9)**

- ***Who are some of the people I work with or come across during the week that I need to become more sensitive to?***

To Become A Kinder Person We Need To:

BE MORE <u>SUPPORTIVE</u> OF OTHERS

- **We need to be "building people up" rather than "tearing people down", especially with our words.**
- *"Kind words bring life, but cruel words crush your spirit."* (Proverbs 15:4 GNB)
- *"The lips of the godly speak helpful words, but the mouth of the wicked speaks perverse words."* (Proverbs 10:32)
- **Joseph was a man who was kind to his brothers even when they had been really unkind to him (Genesis 37, 50:19-21).**

To Become A Kinder Person We Need To:

BE MORE <u>SYMPATHETIC</u> TOWARDS OTHERS

- **People really appreciate it when we "hurt and feel" with them.**
- *"Be happy with those who are happy, and weep with those who weep."* (Romans 12:15)
- **Jesus is the best example of a sympathetic person (Matthew 4:23-24, 9:35-36); so if we're not kind and sympathetic to others, we're not like Him.**

To Become A Kinder Person We Need To:

BE MORE <u>STRAIGHTFORWARD</u> WITH OTHERS

- **Sometimes kindness means being candid while still being caring.**
- *"Wounds from a sincere friend are better than many kisses from an enemy."* (Proverbs 27:6)
- **If we really love people we will be willing to sensitively confront them about the struggles and strongholds of their lives.**
- **Paul was someone who loved others enough to confront them.**
- **When confronting others we must ask ourselves: 1) Am I really committed to this person's best interest? and 2) Do I plan to stick around and help my friend change?**

To Become A Kinder Person We Need To:

BE MORE <u>SELFLESS</u> TOWARDS OTHERS

- *"Whenever we have the opportunity, we should do good to everyone - especially to those in the family of faith."* (Galatians 6:10)
- **The classic example of kindness and selflessness is the story of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:30-37).**

- *“The Lord will not forget how hard you have worked for Him and how you have shown your love to Him by caring for others . . . ”* (Hebrews 6:10)

- ***What steps do I need to take to become a “kinder person”?***
- **We should want to be kind to others because:**
    - **God has been kind to us**
        - *“When God our Savior revealed His kindness and love, He saved us, not because of the righteous things we had done, but because of His mercy. He washed away our sins, giving us a new birth and new life through the Holy Spirit.”* **(**Titus 3:4-5)
    - **We want others to be kind to us**
        - Jesus - *“Do to others what you would have them do to you.”* (Matthew 7:12)
        - *“A man reaps what he sows.”* (Galatians 6:7 NIV)
    - **We want to become stronger and better**
        - *“Your own soul is nourished when you are kind; it is destroyed when you are cruel.”* (Proverbs 11:17 TLB)
- ***Who do I need to show kindness to this coming week, and in what ways can I demonstrate kindness to them?***