



Part 5 – Kindness: The Habit That Endears Others
Galatians 5:22-23

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October 13, 2013

Galatians 5:22-23 “But when the Holy Spirit controls our lives, He will produce this kind of fruit (results) in us: love, joy, peace, patience, **kindness**, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, and self-control.” (NLT)

I. KINDNESS HAS A “GOD-VIEW**” OF PEOPLE.**

Genesis 1:27 “God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.”

Psalms 8:5 “For You made man only a little lower than the angels, and You crowned us with glory and honor.”

- A. At the foot of the cross every person is equal. Every person is God’s **creation** and is to be treated accordingly.**

Matthew 25:35-40 “For I was hungry and you gave Me food, I was thirsty and you gave Me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed Me, ³⁶ I was naked and you gave Me clothing, I was sick and you took care of Me, I was in prison and you visited Me.’ ³⁷ Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw You hungry and gave You food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸ And when was it that we saw You a stranger and welcomed You, or naked and gave You clothing? ³⁹ And when was it that we saw You sick or in prison and visited You?’ ⁴⁰ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to the least person, you did it to **Me**.’”

- B. How we treat others tells them something about our **maturity**.**

*Luke 6:27-28, 31, 35-36 "But I tell you who hear Me: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. ³¹Do to others as you would have them do to you. ³⁵...Then your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, because He is **kind** to the ungrateful and wicked. ³⁶Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful."*

II. KINDNESS IS DEMONSTRATED BY BECOMING **PEOPLE-BUILDERS**.

A. The Greek word for kindness is "crestos." Crestos also means to be used by God to help someone else **grow** and develop.

B. *1 Thessalonians 5:11 "Encourage one another and **build** each other up."*

There are people that need you to help build them up. Be a **people-builder** in their life.

C. *Romans 15:2 "We who are strong in the faith ought to help the weak in order to **build** them up in the faith."*

D. Three things to keep in mind about encouraging others:

1. When we encourage people it needs to be sincere and **genuine**.
2. Encouraging others needs to become a **habit**.
3. Encourage with **specifics**.

III. KINDNESS IS DEMONSTRATED BY DEVELOPING THE ART OF **TACTFULNESS**.

Proverbs 15:23, 28 "Everyone enjoys a fitting reply; it is wonderful to say the right thing at the right time! ²⁸ The godly think before speaking; the wicked spout evil words."

Proverbs 15:4 "Kind words bring life but cruel words crush your spirit."

A. It is being kind to **lovingly confront** another person about a negative issue in his/her life as long as we have earned the privilege to do so.

1. *Proverbs 27:5-6 "Open rebuke is better than secret love. ⁶ Faithful are the wounds of a **friend**; but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful."*
2. *Psalms 141:5 (NASB) "Let the righteous smite me in kindness and reprove me; It is oil upon the head..."*

3. *Psalm 141:5 "A good man will rebuke me in kindness." (paraphrase)*

B. The genuine motive of our confrontation must be to help the other person **succeed**.

C. There are three questions we ought to ask ourselves before we "let someone have it":

1. "**Why** am I saying this?" Am I going to confront with this person to just get even with them?
2. Am I about to say this because it will make me feel better by putting them down?
3. Is what I'm about to say going to build up the relationship or will it tear it down? What is my **motive**?

D. *Proverbs 15:23,28 "Everyone enjoys giving good advice, and how wonderful it is to be able to say the right thing at the right time! ²⁸ A good man **thinks** before he speaks; the evil man pours out his evil words without a thought."*

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Notes:
