**SERMON OUTLINE**

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| **SERMON TITLE:** | Try a Little Kindness |
| **SERMON REFERENCE:** | Galatians 5:22 |
| **LWF SERMON NUMBER:** | #1440 |
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1. INTRODUCTION
   1. Galatians 5:22
      1. This passage is speaking of the fruit of the Spirit.
      2. The King James Version says, “gentleness.”
         1. Some translations say, “kindness.”
      3. The fruit of the Spirit is kindness.
   2. We need kindness in our nation, in our homes, and in our lives.
   3. People need to learn how to be kind.
   4. In today’s message, we will discuss this fruit of the Spirit, which is kindness.
2. What is kindness? (galatians 5:22)
   1. The word “kindness” in Galatians 5:22 is also called “gentleness.”
      1. It comes from a root word which means “to be useful,” “to be good,” “to be helpful,” or “to be suitable.”
      2. It is sometimes translated as goodness, tenderness, friendliness, or generosity.
   2. We all know what kindness is when we see it.
      1. Kindness is love lived out.
      2. 1 Corinthians 13:4
   3. All kindness is just simply love in practical and personal ways.
3. why we ought to be kind (titus 3:4-5)
   1. We should be kind because God has saved us through His kindness.
      1. God has been so kind to us.
      2. Titus 3:4-5
         1. The Bible calls the coming of Jesus Christ into the world, “God’s kindness toward us.”
            1. We have been saved by the kindness of God.
      3. Ephesians 4:32
         1. In this passage, the Apostle Paul is speaking to those who have been saved.
         2. We have received kindness; therefore, we must show kindness.
   2. The world is not going to see the Lord Jesus Christ in us until they see our kindness.
      1. The world is not primarily interested in our theology.
         1. They want to know if it has changed our lives.
         2. It has been said that people do not care how much we know until they know how much we care.
      2. God is love, and love is kind.
      3. As the Lord Jesus inhabits our humanity, He is going to display His deity to the degree that we are kind and gentle.
   3. If we want kindness, then we need to give it.
      1. Whatever we want, we need to learn to give it.
      2. The Bible says that we are going to reap what we sow.
         1. Galatians 6:7
   4. There are some who are afraid that if they are too kind, then people will take advantage of them.
      1. It is God who keeps the score.
         1. God knows.
      2. It does not matter if someone takes advantage of us if we are acting like the Lord Jesus.
         1. People took advantage of the Lord Jesus, but He was kind and is kind.
4. when we ought to be kind (galatians 6:10)
   1. Galatians 6:10
   2. Opportunities come to be kind.
      1. Many times, we let these opportunities go past.
         1. Has the Holy Spirit ever impressed you to do an act of kindness to someone, but you just didn’t do it?
            1. You meant to, but you delayed; perhaps you got too busy.
         2. We had an opportunity to do good, and somehow, we simply let it pass by.
      2. The Good Samaritan saw a man who was bruised and bleeding.
         1. Luke 10:30-37
         2. He was on his journey, and he stopped to help.
            1. He did not make excuses.
            2. He did not say he was too busy.
            3. He did not say that it was none of his business.
            4. Right there at that moment, he stopped and did what he could do.

It was a golden moment, and he took it.

* + 1. All around us are people who are bruised and bleeding.
       1. Some are bleeding financially.
       2. Some are bleeding emotionally.
       3. Some are bleeding spiritually.
       4. They need us to take the opportunity, right now, to be kind.
  1. The chief enemy to kindness is busyness.
     1. We have our priorities, jobs, duties, and responsibilities.
     2. If we are too busy to be kind, then we are too busy.
  2. The Bible says that as we have the opportunity, let us do good.
     1. Galatians 6:10
  3. We cannot do a kindness too soon.
     1. We never know how soon it may be too late.
     2. As we have opportunity, let’s do good.

1. the where of kindness (2 timothy 2:24)
   1. We should be kind in times of conflict, arguments, and quarrels.
      1. 2 Timothy 2:24
         1. If we are servants of the Lord, then we cannot be quarrelsome.
      2. We have to be kind in times of conflict.
      3. We need to be very careful when we get into an argument with someone.
         1. It does not matter whether that person is saved or lost.
         2. We need to ask ourselves if the person we are in conflict with is a brother or a sister in Christ.
            1. If so, then he or she is part of our body.

We are members of the same body, and Jesus Christ is the head.

If we harm him, then we harm ourselves.

* + - * 1. Suppose he is an unsaved person.

If we are unkind to him, then we are driving him further away from Jesus.

If he is unsaved, then how do we expect him to understand spiritual things?

He is more an object of our pity than our wrath.

* + - 1. Whether he is saved or lost, our desire is not to drive him away but to win back our brother or to win this person to the Lord Jesus.
    1. Kindness can do what perhaps nothing else can do.
    2. If the other person is our brother or sister, then we need to treat them as Jesus would treat them.
       1. If they are our enemy, then we need to make them the object of our pity.
    3. When we have a quarrelsome attitude with someone, we have to remember that the unsaved are standing all around.
       1. They do not know who is who or what is what.
       2. But they know how they see us react.
          1. They know if what we have is real or not.
          2. Our kindness may win them to the Lord Jesus.
  1. We need to be kind in our conversation.
     1. Our words can bless or burn; our words can hurt or heal.
        1. Proverbs 18:21
        2. Proverbs 15:4
     2. Everyone needs some kind words.
        1. We might be surprised how we can bless someone with a word of kindness.
  2. We need to be kind when people are hurting and need compassion.
     1. We have people who are hurting all around us.
     2. We need to learn how to be sensitive.
     3. Philippians 2:4
        1. Don’t be so concerned about yourself that you cannot see.
        2. The key word in this passage is “look.”
           1. Be sensitive.
           2. We need to open our eyes.
     4. We may not know what to say, but give a gentle touch.
        1. A little act of kindness can mean so much.
  3. We need to be kind the most in our homes.
     1. Sometimes we are the most unkind to those we love the best.
     2. The religion that does not begin at home does not begin.
     3. The religion that is not kind is not the Christian kind of religion.
     4. Many marriages can be saved by a little gentleness.
        1. It has been said that courtesy is made up of little sacrifices.
        2. Men are to be the head of the home, but one of the marks of leadership is gentleness.
           1. 2 Timothy 2:24
     5. If we want our children to be great, then be gentle to them.
        1. Psalm 18:35
        2. Our words can encourage them.
           1. Do we encourage or belittle?

To belittle is to be little.

* + - 1. Children need gentleness.
      2. Children will blossom with parents who are gentle.
    1. Proverbs 31:26
       1. The Bible says of a gracious woman and wife that the law of kindness is in her mouth.
          1. Children need this kindness perhaps more than anything else.
  1. We need to be kind to our brothers and sisters in Christ.
     1. We need to be kind in church.
     2. Ephesians 4:32
  2. There are people around us who need someone to love them.
     1. We need to show kindness at home.
     2. We need to show kindness on the job.
     3. We need to show kindness in church.

1. the way of kindness (galatians 5:22)
   1. The fruit of the Spirit is kindness.
      1. Galatians 5:22
   2. Kindness is the life of Jesus.
      1. The Bible says of the Lord Jesus that He went about doing good.
         1. Acts 10:38
   3. We do not have it in us to be kind, not the Bible-kind of kindness.
      1. We do not have what it takes.
      2. No one can be Jesus but Jesus.
         1. If we knew what Jesus would do, we wouldn’t have the strength to do it anyway.
      3. There is only one person who has ever lived the Christian life.
         1. His name is Jesus.
      4. If the Christian life is lived where we are, then it will be Jesus Christ living it in us and through us.
         1. If we are saved, then Jesus lives in us.
            1. We are His body.
         2. Like a branch abides in a vine, we are to draw from the Lord Jesus.
            1. John 15:5
            2. The fruit of the Spirit is kindness.

Galatians 5:22

1. CONCLUSION
   1. Colossians 3:12
      1. As the elect of God, we are to put on kindness.
   2. Every morning when you wake up, you can choose your attitude.
      1. You can put on kindness.
         1. You can put it on because, if you are saved, the Lord Jesus is in you to live His life through you.
   3. Be kind, for the fruit of the Spirit is kindness.
   4. Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
   5. Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
      1. Romans 3:23
      2. Romans 10:9-10
      3. Romans 10:13
      4. Acts 16:31
      5. John 3:16