

## SERMON OUTLINE

**SERMON TITLE:** Try a Little Kindness

**SERMON REFERENCE:** Galatians 5:22

**LWF SERMON NUMBER:** #1440

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1) INTRODUCTION

- a) Galatians 5:22
  - i) This passage is speaking of the fruit of the Spirit.
  - ii) The King James Version says, “gentleness.”
    - (1) Some translations say, “kindness.”
  - iii) The fruit of the Spirit is kindness.
- b) We need kindness in our nation, in our homes, and in our lives.
- c) People need to learn how to be kind.
- d) In today’s message, we will discuss this fruit of the Spirit, which is kindness.

2) WHAT IS KINDNESS? (GALATIANS 5:22)

- a) The word “kindness” in Galatians 5:22 is also called “gentleness.”
  - i) It comes from a root word which means “to be useful,” “to be good,” “to be helpful,” or “to be suitable.”
  - ii) It is sometimes translated as goodness, tenderness, friendliness, or generosity.
- b) We all know what kindness is when we see it.
  - i) Kindness is love lived out.
  - ii) 1 Corinthians 13:4
- c) All kindness is just simply love in practical and personal ways.

3) WHY WE OUGHT TO BE KIND (TITUS 3:4-5)

- a) We should be kind because God has saved us through His kindness.
  - i) God has been so kind to us.
  - ii) Titus 3:4-5
    - (1) The Bible calls the coming of Jesus Christ into the world, “God’s kindness toward us.”
      - (a) We have been saved by the kindness of God.
  - iii) 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.
- b) The world is not going to see the Lord Jesus Christ in us until they see our kindness.
  - i) 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.
  - ii) God is love, and love is kind.
  - iii) As the Lord Jesus inhabits our humanity, He is going to display His deity to the degree that we are kind and gentle.
- c) If we want kindness, then we need to give it.
  - i) Whatever we want, we need to learn to give it.
  - ii) The Bible says that we are going to reap what we sow.

- (1) Galatians 6:7
  - d) There are some who are afraid that if they are too kind, then people will take advantage of them.
    - i) It is God who keeps the score.
      - (1) God knows.
    - ii) 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)
- a) Galatians 6:10
  - b) Opportunities come to be kind.
    - i) 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?
        - (a) 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.
      - ii) 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.
          - (a) He did not make excuses.
          - (b) He did not say he was too busy.
          - (c) He did not say that it was none of his business.
          - (d) Right there at that moment, he stopped and did what he could do.
            - (i) It was a golden moment, and he took it.
        - iii) 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.
      - c) The chief enemy to kindness is busyness.
        - i) We have our priorities, jobs, duties, and responsibilities.
        - ii) If we are too busy to be kind, then we are too busy.
      - d) The Bible says that as we have the opportunity, let us do good.
        - i) Galatians 6:10
      - e) We cannot do a kindness too soon.
        - i) We never know how soon it may be too late.
        - ii) As we have opportunity, let's do good.

5) THE WHERE OF KINDNESS (2 TIMOTHY 2:24)

      - a) We should be kind in times of conflict, arguments, and quarrels.
        - i) 2 Timothy 2:24
          - (1) If we are servants of the Lord, then we cannot be quarrelsome.

- ii) We have to be kind in times of conflict.
- iii) 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.
    - (a) If so, then he or she is part of our body.
      - (i) We are members of the same body, and Jesus Christ is the head.
        - 1. If we harm him, then we harm ourselves.
      - (b) Suppose he is an unsaved person.
        - (i) If we are unkind to him, then we are driving him further away from Jesus.
        - (ii) If he is unsaved, then how do we expect him to understand spiritual things?
          - 1. He is more an object of our pity than our wrath.
    - (3) 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.
- iv) Kindness can do what perhaps nothing else can do.
- v) 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.
- vi) 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.
    - (a) They know if what we have is real or not.
    - (b) Our kindness may win them to the Lord Jesus.
- b) We need to be kind in our conversation.
  - i) Our words can bless or burn; our words can hurt or heal.
    - (1) Proverbs 18:21
    - (2) Proverbs 15:4
  - ii) Everyone needs some kind words.
    - (1) We might be surprised how we can bless someone with a word of kindness.
- c) We need to be kind when people are hurting and need compassion.
  - i) We have people who are hurting all around us.
  - ii) We need to learn how to be sensitive.
  - iii) Philippians 2:4
    - (1) Don't be so concerned about yourself that you cannot see.
    - (2) The key word in this passage is "look."
      - (a) Be sensitive.
      - (b) We need to open our eyes.
  - iv) We may not know what to say, but give a gentle touch.
    - (1) A little act of kindness can mean so much.

- d) We need to be kind the most in our homes.
    - i) Sometimes we are the most unkind to those we love the best.
    - ii) The religion that does not begin at home does not begin.
    - iii) The religion that is not kind is not the Christian kind of religion.
    - iv) 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.
        - (a) 2 Timothy 2:24
    - v) If we want our children to be great, then be gentle to them.
      - (1) Psalm 18:35
      - (2) Our words can encourage them.
        - (a) Do we encourage or belittle?
          - (i) To belittle is to be little.
        - (3) Children need gentleness.
        - (4) Children will blossom with parents who are gentle.
    - vi) Proverbs 31:26
      - (1) The Bible says of a gracious woman and wife that the law of kindness is in her mouth.
        - (a) Children need this kindness perhaps more than anything else.
  - e) We need to be kind to our brothers and sisters in Christ.
    - i) We need to be kind in church.
    - ii) Ephesians 4:32
  - f) There are people around us who need someone to love them.
    - i) We need to show kindness at home.
    - ii) We need to show kindness on the job.
    - iii) We need to show kindness in church.
- 6) THE WAY OF KINDNESS (GALATIANS 5:22)
- a) The fruit of the Spirit is kindness.
    - i) Galatians 5:22
  - b) Kindness is the life of Jesus.
    - i) The Bible says of the Lord Jesus that He went about doing good.
      - (1) Acts 10:38
  - c) We do not have it in us to be kind, not the Bible-kind of kindness.
    - i) We do not have what it takes.
    - ii) 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.
    - iii) There is only one person who has ever lived the Christian life.
      - (1) His name is Jesus.
    - iv) 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.

- (a) We are His body.
- (2) Like a branch abides in a vine, we are to draw from the Lord Jesus.
  - (a) John 15:5
  - (b) The fruit of the Spirit is kindness.
    - (i) Galatians 5:22

## 7) CONCLUSION

- a) Colossians 3:12
  - i) As the elect of God, we are to put on kindness.
- b) Every morning when you wake up, you can choose your attitude.
  - i) 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.
- c) Be kind, for the fruit of the Spirit is kindness.
- d) Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
- e) 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.
  - i) Romans 3:23
  - ii) Romans 10:9-10
  - iii) Romans 10:13
  - iv) Acts 16:31
  - v) John 3:16