



The Fruit of the Spirit #5 = Kindness

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Introduction: Paul boldly urges the churches of Galatia to walk by the Spirit. He warns them about the works of the flesh and then identifies the fruit of the Spirit. Let's consider some things about kindness

Discussion:

I. Recognizing The Kindness of God

Romans 2:3-4 says, "You didn't think, did you, that just by pointing your finger at others you would distract God from seeing all your misdoings and from coming down on you hard? Or did you think that because he's such a nice God, he'd let you off the hook? Better think this one through from the beginning. God is kind, but he's not soft. In kindness he takes us firmly by the hand and leads us into a radical life-change." (The Message)

- * A Radically Changed Life
- * A Dangerous Walk
- * A Difficult Path

II. Remembering The Kindness of God

Titus 3:3-7 says, "In the past we also were foolish. We did not obey, we were wrong, and we were slaves to many things our bodies wanted and enjoyed. We spent our lives doing evil and being jealous. People hated us, and we hated each other. But when the kindness and love of God our Savior was shown, he saved us because of his mercy. It was not because of good deeds we did to be right with him. He saved us through the washing that made us new people through the Holy Spirit. God poured out richly upon us that Holy Spirit through Jesus Christ our Savior. Being made right with God by his grace, we could have the hope of receiving the life that never ends." (NCV)

- * The Life That Never Ends
- * The Evil Life We Left Behind
- * The Amazing Grace of God

III. Revived By The Kindness of God

Ephesians 2:6-9 says, "And he raised us up with Christ and gave us a seat with him in the heavens. He did this for those in Christ Jesus so that for all future time he could show the very great riches of his grace by being kind to us in Christ Jesus. I mean that you have been saved by grace through believing. You did not save yourselves; it was a gift from God. It was not the result of your own efforts, so you cannot brag about it." (NCV)

- * The Love of God
- * The Sacrifice of Jesus
- * The Conviction of the Holy Spirit

IV. Represent The Kindness of God

Colossians 3:12-17 says, "God has chosen you and made you his holy people. He loves you. So you should always clothe yourselves with mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Bear with each other, and forgive each other. If someone does wrong to you, forgive that person because the Lord forgave you. Even more than all this, clothe yourself in love. Love is what holds you all together in perfect unity. Let the peace that Christ gives control your thinking, because you were all called together in one body to have peace. Always be thankful. Let the teaching of Christ live in you richly. Use all wisdom to teach and instruct each other by singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with thankfulness in your hearts to God. Everything you do or say should be done to obey Jesus your Lord. And in all you do, give thanks to God the Father through Jesus." (NCV)

- * New Life = New Clothing
- * New Life = New Attitude
- * New Life = New Mission

Conclusion: We need to re-evaluate what we are doing, why we are doing it, and how it is improving our life. Paul hopes that we will live in the Spirit and walk in the Spirit! It's time to bear fruit! Are you ready to obey God's will? Are you ready to show kindness?

WORD OF THE DAY = "KINDNESS"