

G R E A T B I B L E W O R D S

Kindness

Introduction: Last week we focused on the word “goodness” and noticed it as a sign of excellence and moral integrity. Today we will talk about a word that often gets confused with goodness... the word kindness. I find it interesting that both words are listed BACK TO BACK as fruit of the spirit: “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.” (Galatians 5:22-23) Let's study this great Bible word together...

Discussion:

I. Acts of Kindness in the Old Testament

- A. Kindness from the very beginning (Genesis 1-2, 6:20, 7:14).
- B. Kindness shown by Rebekah (Genesis 24:9-25).
- C. Kindness shown by David (II Samuel 9, Acts 13:22, I Samuel 18:3).
- D. Kindness shown by God to His people (Isaiah 54:8, 10)

II. Acts of Kindness in the New Testament

- A. Kindness from the very beginning (Matthew 1-2, Ephesians 2:6-9, Titus 3:4).
- B. Kindness shown by the good Samaritan (Luke 10:30-37).
- C. Kindness shown by Jesus (John 13:3-17, Isaiah 52:13, 53:11).
- D. Kindness shown by the early Christians (Acts 2:42-47, 4:32-37, 6:1-7).

III. Acts of Kindness in the Church of Christ

- A. Kindness from the very beginning (Acts 2-28, Mark 16:15-16).
- B. Kindness from other sinners (Romans 2:3-4, 3:10, 12).
- C. Kindness without hesitation (Matthew 5:38-42, Galatians 6:2, Ephesians 4:32).
- D. Kindness toward all people (I Timothy 5:15, II Timothy 2:24, II Peter 1:5-7).

Conclusion: Did you know there is a World Kindness Day (November 13)? There are dozens of websites dedicated to telling stories about random acts of kindness. Do you know what is better than random acts of kindness? Planned acts of kindness! Consider the story of Todd Mason, from Jackson County, FL. There are many more stories just like this one. This wasn't just a few random acts of kindness... it was a community effort. Christians should mobilize like this when we see a need. We need to be watching for opportunities. If you are not a Christian, please let us show you some kindness today? Would you let us pray with you? Are you ready to show kindness? Are you bearing good fruit for God? Let's share this wonderful word with others!