

Be Kind To One Another

Int.

1. Aim: To show that kindness is necessary to make life pleasing and to please God.
2. Eph. 4:32 "And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."
3. Rom. 12:10 "Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;"
4. Definitions of the word Kind
 - a. Greek = to be kind, loving, merciful, good, gracious
 - b. English:
 - (1) Of a sympathetic nature = friendly
 - (2) Of a forbearing nature = gentle
 - (3) Of a pleasant nature = agreeable
 - (4) Stressing a disposition to be helpful, affectionate, loving
 - (5) Gentle, considerate, good hearted
 - c. Kindness can be summarized as goodness in action.
5. Mark Twain is quoted as saying: "Kindness is a language which the deaf can hear and the blind can read."
6. We will discuss: Who? How? What?
 - a. To whom should we be kind? (1) Brethren (2) Family (3) Friends (4) Enemies
 - b. How do we show Kindness?
 - c. What are the Results of kindness?

Discussion

I. TO WHOM SHOULD WE BE KIND ?

A. Brethren

1. Rom. 12:10 ASV "In love of the brethren be tenderly affectioned one to another; in honor preferring one another;" "Be kind to one another with a brother's love, putting others before yourselves in honour;" BBE
 - a. Tenderly [Kindly] affectioned - family feelings - fellow Christian
 - b. Brotherly love - 1 Pet. 3:8 - be courteous "Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous:" "Finally, be ye all like-minded, compassionate, loving as brethren, tenderhearted, humble minded:" ASV
 - c. Preferring one another - mutual respect
2. Heb. 13:1 "Let brotherly love continue."
3. No reason or excuse for unkindness to brethren
 - a. Sometimes disagree, do not see things alike
 - b. But that does not mean we are to get mad and be unkind and say unkind things to each other or about one another; even if they are wrong.
 - c. Gal. 5:15 "But if ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another."
4. Gen. 13:8 "And Abram said unto Lot, Let there be no strife, I pray thee, between me and thee, and between my herdmen and thy herdmen; for we be brethren."
 - a. Strife = conflict, controversy, turmoil, friction
 - b. Kindness is the oil [GREASE] that takes the friction out of life
 - c. Bearings on motors must have oil - it cuts down friction

- d. If there is no oil the heat builds and the bearing fails
 - e. Each bearing must do its part or the others get hurt
 - f. Kindness is the oil that smooths the friction between people
 - g. When one fails others are hurt - every single individual is important !
5. 2 Pet. 1:7 "...brotherly kindness..." Love of the brethren
6. Be kind -- friendly, gentle, agreeable to your brethren.

B. Be kind to your family

1. Husband and wife

a. Husband to wife

- (1) Eph. 5:25a "Husbands, love your wives,..."
- (2) 1 Cor. 13:4 "love is kind" = gentle, considerate, gracious, good, helpful
- (3) Prov. 26:21 "As coals are to burning coals, and wood to fire; so is a contentious man to kindle strife." Contentious = brawling, quarrelsome

b. Wife to husband

- (1) Prov. 25:24 "It is better to dwell in the corner of the housetop, than with a brawling woman and in a wide house."
- (2) Prov. 21:9 "It is better to dwell in a corner of the housetop, than with a brawling woman in a wide house." = Brawling -- cantankerous - ill natured - quarrelsome
- (3) Prov. 19:13 "A foolish son is the calamity of his father: and the contentions of a wife are a continual dropping."

(4) Prov. 31:26 "She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness."

2. Parents and children

a. Parents to Children

(1) Eph. 6:4 "And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord."

(2) Col. 3:21 "Fathers, provoke not your children to anger, lest they be discouraged."

(3) Kindness will help to bring them up in the proper way - Prov. 22:6

b. Children to parents

(1) Eph. 6:2 "Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise;"

(2) Honour - respect, kindness is needed to show honour to parents

C. Be kind to your Friends

1. We must be friendly

a. Mt. 5:13-16 "Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men. 14. Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. 15. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. 16. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

- b. Salt
- c. Light
- d. In order to be a good influence on our friends we must be kind to them

2. Be kind:

- a. On the job with fellow employees - Work Place
- b. With our employer / employees
- c. To our neighbors
- d. Col. 3:12-13 "Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; 13. Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye."
 - (1) Put off the old man and put on the new man
 - (2) This new man is to be filled with kindness
 - (3) We are to forbear and forgive
 - (4) That is kindness

D. Be kind to your Enemies

1. Scriptures teach this

- a. Mt. 5:43-48 - love our enemy
- b. Rom. 12:14 "Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not."

c. Rom. 12:17-21 "Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men. 18. If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men. 19. Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. 20. Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head. 21. Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good."

- (1) Do not avenge yourself
- (2) If enemy
 - (a) Hunger -- feed him
 - (b) Thirst -- give him drink
- (3) These are actions of kindness
- (4) Win Over evil [enemy] with good

2. What will this do?

- a. Kindness may destroy the enemy and make him a friend.
- b. If it doesn't do this it is still better for you:
 - (1) Better for you spiritually - God commands it
 - (2) Better for you emotionally
 - (3) Better for you physically
 - (4) Better for you socially

II. HOW DO WE SHOW KINDNESS ?

A. Actions - kindness should be found in actions

1. Kindness should be found in our thoughts
2. Before we can do kindness we must first think kindness
3. We should be busy doing kindnesses in our life every day
4. Kind actions to: Family, Friends, Brethren and Enemies
5. "Do a good deed every day"
6. Acts 10:38 "...went about doing good."
7. I Pet. 4:8 "And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins."
8. We have many opportunities to show kindness
 - a. Many people fail to live up to perfection
 - b. But our attitude toward them should be one of kindness
 - c. Even though others may not be kind toward us, we can express kindness toward them.

B. Words - kindness in words

1. Some people have a kind sound to their speech
2. Some have the ability to make us feel their kindness whenever they speak to us.
 - a. It is not just their words or exactly the way they say it.
 - b. But it is a combination of these things along with the love that fills their heart.
 - c. Eccl. 10:12 "The words of a wise man's mouth are gracious; but the lips of a fool will swallow up himself." Gracious = kindness, pleasant, well favored

3. Prov. 31:26 we read about the virtuous woman. It says "in her tongue is the law of kindness."
- The law of kindness will guide her choice of words
 - It will shape her use of words
 - This law of kindness will be noticed by those to whom she speaks.
 - It is because her heart is filled with love that she has a tongue that follows the law of kindness.
4. "Love is kind" - 1 Cor. 13:4
5. We sometimes become frustrated
- We take that frustration out on the ones who are closest to us
 - We snap at one another, we are irritable with our loved ones. We fume and fuss at one another.
 - Why? It is because we have not put the law of kindness on our tongue!
 - III. One time an old lady was asked why she had so many friends. She answered, "I suppose it is because I taste my words before I speak them."
 - Taste your words the next time before you speak them. Will they be sour? Will they be bitter? Will they lack that ingredient that will make them tasty? If they are lacking kindness, why not add it??

C. Poem - He stopped to Pat a Dog

He stopped to pat a small dog's head
 A little thing to do:
 And yet, the dog, remembering,
 Was glad the whole day through.

He gave a rose into the hand
 Of one who loved it much;
 'Twas just a rose - but, Oh, the joy
 That lay in its soft touch.

He spoke a word so tenderly -
 A word's a wee, small thing;
 And yet, it stirred a weary heart
 To hope again, and sing.

- by Lois Snelling

III. WHAT ARE THE RESULTS OF KINDNESS ?

A. Make us more like our heavenly Father

1. Lk. 6:34-35 "...for he is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil." kind = gracious
2. As children are like their fathers, so we shall be like Him who is kind to all, as we develop kindness within our lives.
3. The more Christ-like one becomes, the more kindness he will manifest to all.

B. Happiness will increase

1. Happiness comes as a by-product of making other people happy
2. Kindness in words and actions toward others will make you and them happy!
3. Eph. 4:32 "And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."

CONCLUSION

1. Poem:

Do all the good you can,
 By all the means you can,
 In all the ways you can,
 In all the places you can
 At all the times you can
 To all the people you can,
 As long as ever you can.

2. Prov. 19:22 ASV "That which maketh a man to be desired is his kindness."
3. Kindness is love in action- it is love doing good.

4. Who should be kind?
 - a. Everyone - young, old, teens, middle age
 - b. There is no excuse for anyone being unkind.
5. Kindness is the mark of a gentleman as well as a Christian!
6. Are you trying to walk in the footsteps of the kindest person whoever walked among men
-Jesus Christ?
 - a. Are you obedient to God as He was?
 - b. Are you willing to accept God's will in all things?
 - c. Have you obeyed the gospel?
 - d. If you love God then you will obey
 - e. Then you will develop the love in your heart to be like him.
7. "Love is Kind".
8. No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.

Sources Consulted

1. G.A. June 6, 85 "The Behavior of Love" by Aven Humphreys,p. 340
 2. V.E.D.N.T. P. 292 "Kindness"
 3. Websters - p. 466
 4. Funk & Wagnalls - p. 357
 5. The Miracles of Jesus - Frank L. Cox p. 5.
 6. Love's Dozen, Charles A. Pledge - p.15-18
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