

Fruit of the Spirit - Kindness  
3/16/2025

**22** *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.*  
Galatians 5:22-23

“An ability to serve others practically in a way which makes me vulnerable” - Tim Keller

A gracious disposition of character and attitude that encompasses tenderness, compassion, and sweetness

A gracious disposition that motivates one to do things that are helpful and beneficial for others

A gracious disposition that is an overflow of God’s generosity which leads to generosity toward others.

A response to what God has done in our lives - I see you, I value you, I care

God’s Kindness:

A) It Is Part Of His Character

*6 The Lord passed before him and proclaimed, “The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, Exodus 34:6*

*Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.*  
Psalm 136:1

B) God’s Kindness Is Undeserved

*4 But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, 5 he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, Titus 3:4-5a*

What This Means For Us:

A) We Are To Mirror It In Our Lives

**12** *Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, 13 bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. 14 And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.* Colossians 3:12-14

**31** Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. **32** Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you. Ephesians 4:31-32

**33** And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' Matthew 18:33

**35** But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. **36** Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful. Luke 6:35-36

B) It is not optional for Christ followers

**35** So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart." Matthew 18:35

**5** For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, **6** and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, **7** and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. **8** For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Peter 1:5-8