

Saturday, August 15, 2026

"Only as we walk ever deeper into this tender kindness, can we live the Christian life as the New Testament calls us to. Only as we drink down the kindness of the heart of Christ, will we leave in our wake everywhere we go, the aroma of heaven and die one day, having startled the world with a glimpse of divine kindness too great to be boxed in by what we deserve." (Dane Ortlund, *Gentle and Lowly: The Heart of Christ for Sinners and Sufferers*, p. 22.)

Look inward. In a non-judgmental manner, invite the Holy Spirit to do an audit on your "kindness" meter. (Not "niceness" but kindness)

Look upward. Reflect on how God is so incredibly kind with us.

Look outward. To whom do you need to show more of God's kindness? Not your kindness, but God's kindness.

Look forward. There is a day coming when harshness will not be the norm, and will not even exist at all. Pray for that day to come sooner than later. Until that day, however, pray that you would become a person of kindness.

WEEK 6



becoming
fruit of the Spirit summer series



"Becoming" • Week 6

Galatians 5:22 - *The fruit of the Spirit is...kindness....*

In such chaotic times as this current cultural moment, the Church has a different and better way of life to offer the world. The fruit of the Spirit is about living life by the Spirit of God in order to become the kind of person this world needs.

This series of devotionals is designed to take us deeper into what God has for us each week, based on the topic of the previous Sunday's teaching.

This week we explore the second fruit of the Spirit - kindness.

Instructions: this could be a simple format for your prayer time:

1. Begin with a prayer of approach, asking God to reveal himself to you and to take you deeper into relationship with him.
2. Come with an attitude of humility, submission, and learning, so that you're ready to obey what God says.
3. Pray the Scripture for that day. Read it slowly. What stands out to you? What strikes you? Read it a second time slowly.
4. Keep note throughout the day how you notice or experience kindness (or lack thereof) in your life. Be thinking about what you could share with someone else regarding the goodness and love of God.

Friday, August 14, 2026

Ephesians 4:29-32 (NIV) -

²⁹ Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. ³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹ Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. ³² Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

1. The world is longing for a community of people that is kind and not harsh to one another. The Church, our church even, has a better way of life on offer for everyone. What can you contribute to help us become such a church?

2. Is there any way you have grieved the Holy Spirit with your harshness? Simply release that to him, and invite Jesus to come into that place with his healing.

Thursday, August 13, 2026

Romans 2:4 (NIV) -

⁴ Or do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, forbearance and patience, not realizing that God's kindness is intended to lead you to repentance?

1. Paul is saying here that for someone to truly change, it will come through seeing the kindness of God. If we want our kids' lives or our grandkids' lives or our friends' lives to change for the better, how is that going to happen?

2. Perhaps there's something in your life that you'd like to have changed - how can the kindness of God motivate that desire?

3. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you release any "contempt for the riches of his kindness...."

Monday, August 10, 2026

Joel 2:13 (NIV) -

*¹³ Rend your heart
and not your garments.
Return to the Lord your God,
for he is gracious and compassionate,
slow to anger and abounding in love,
and he relents from sending calamity.*

1. God is not walking around with a disposition of anger and harshness, but with a heart of compassion and love. Take a moment to praise God for this part of his character. Take a moment to just love him. ("I love you, God. I love you, heavenly Father. You are full of love. I love you.")

2. Where have you experienced the kindness of God in your own life?

Tuesday, August 11, 2026

Titus 3:4-7 (NIV) -

⁴ But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, ⁵ he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.

1. What do you think Paul means by “when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared?”

2. To whom is God’s kindness pointed? Only to those who are kind to him? Reflect on who gets God’s kindness.

3. How is your view of God’s kindness growing?

Wednesday, August 12, 2026

Luke 6:32-36 (NIV) -

³² “If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them. ³³ And if you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do that. ³⁴ And if you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, expecting to be repaid in full. ³⁵ But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. ³⁶ Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.”

1. Jesus’ words here challenge us - when we are unkind to others, we show them a false view of God. In a non-judgmental way, ask the Holy Spirit to reveal any harshness in your heart. (towards him, towards a particular group of people, towards yourself, etc.)

2. Ask the Holy Spirit for some practical ways you can show kindness to someone you may not particularly want to show kindness to today.