

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

For the week of October 4-10, 2020

“THE POWER OF KINDNESS”

GETTING STARTED

To the facilitator: Use this section to introduce the topic. If possible, give a brief recap of the sermon.

Share a memorable point, a spiritual lesson, a personal application, a question, or something that challenged you from the sermon last Sunday.

What kind word of deed has someone done for you this week?

GROUP DISCUSSION

1. Read Colossians 3:12, Galatians 5:22-23, Luke 6:33-34. What does it mean for you to clothe yourself in kindness? What are some ways you can do that? What is the role of the Holy Spirit in bearing the fruit of kindness in our lives? What makes “random acts of kindness” different from a lifestyle of kindness?
2. “Kindness is something that we give to others even though they don’t deserve it.” Share a specific situation in the past month where this was true of you or conversely, that you were unkind to someone who was unkind to you.
3. Read Matthew 8:1-4, Leviticus 13:45-46. What is the significance of the leper asking Jesus to make him clean rather than to be healed (Matt 8:2)? What do you think were some of the tragic life experiences of a leper in those times? What makes Jesus’ touching the man significant (Matt 8:3)? How does Jesus’ kind act inspire you to kindness?
4. *Discuss.* In Psalm 141:5-6, David considered the rebuke of a righteous man as kindness. In what way is kindness different from niceness? In what way is it important to be kind even when we are correcting or rebuking someone? Talk about ways and or situations where you can apply this.
5. Share some examples of the times when you have been kind but your motive was not necessarily godly. Pastor Nic says that we are to live from a Christ-centered relationship that spills out into a life of kindness. Why is it important to make this distinction? Based on the passages that have been read, how would you differentiate godly kindness and “worldly” kindness?

6. Among the different aspects of biblical kindness that has been discussed, which struck you as most relevant in your life today? Why? What steps do you need to cultivate genuine biblical kindness (e.g. in your words, deeds, attitude, etc.) that glorifies God?

7. [NEXT STEPS]

We are kind not because someone deserves kindness or because of what we get in return, but because of who we are in Christ.

- ☐ I will be kind to _____ (name of person).
- ☐ I will remember that my motive for kindness is Jesus.
- ☐ I will be kind with my words.
- ☐ I will not withhold actions of kindness.
- ☐ I will exhibit a kind attitude in responding to unkindness.

Don’t forget to:

- ☐ Go through the devotionals everyday this week.
- ☐ Have a regular daily time of prayer and reading of God’s Word.
- ☐ Commit 30 minutes a day for God’s intervention in this fight against the COVID virus.

CLOSING THE SESSION.

Close the session by taking the time to pray for one another. Consider the following as you pray:

- Pray for the Holy Spirit to grow the fruit of kindness in your life and for the Lord to show you who you can express biblical kindness to.
- Take the time to pray for our nation, for peace and for the gospel to prosper during this time of the pandemic.
- Pray for those who are hurting, going through fear, worry and anxiety in the group.
- Pray for your unsaved family, friends and loved ones.