

## The Fruit of the Spirit - Lesson #6 Kindness

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control... (Galatians 5:22-23a ESV)

Anyone can be kind. Only Christians will show the fruit of the Spirit of kindness.

### What is Spirit-led Kindness?

-Kindness is an \_\_\_\_\_ of our love for God because of His kindness towards us.

“At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another. But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, 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” (Titus 3:3-5)

-God’s Kindness leads us to \_\_\_\_\_.

“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?” (Romans 2:4)

-Kindness is an \_\_\_\_\_.

“Get rid of all bitterness, rage...anger, brawling...slander...malice. Be kind...compassionate...forgiving” (Ephesians 4:31-32)

### What does Kindness look like?

1. Humble
2. Risky
3. Intentional
4. Forgiving

### How do we show Kindness?

1. Love for our \_\_\_\_\_.

“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” (Luke 6:35)

2. **Love for our** \_\_\_\_\_.  
“Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers” (Galatians 6:10 NIV)
3. **Love for the** \_\_\_\_\_.  
“And the King will say, ‘I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!’” (Matthew 25:34-40)

Spirit-led kindness leads others to Jesus, the ultimate example of kindness.

### Discussion Questions

1. Who would you consider to be the kindest person you have ever known - how did they express their kindness?
2. What is the difference between kindness and Spirit-led kindness?
3. How has Spirit-led kindness led you or someone you know to repentance?
4. Are there ways that Spirit-led kindness can be abused? Explain what you mean.
5. How can the Church, as a corporate body, demonstrate Spirit-led kindness?
6. Why is it so hard to show kindness to our enemies?
7. What can you do to develop a spirit of kindness?
8. What are the best ways that we can practice Spirit-led kindness at home, at work, and in public?
9. How was Jesus the ultimate example of kindness?
10. Pray for yourself, your group, and our church. Ask God for the fruit of the Spirit of Kindness.