

SECOND PETER CHAPTER 1

Lesson 12

BROTHERLY KINDNESS

24 October, 2014

“...⁷ And to godliness brotherly kindness...”

It's not enough to know the Bible and have right doctrine. If you're not kind to people, your knowledge will go to waste. It won't bear any fruit. Being kind will get you a lot farther with people than “being right.” Kindness is something you are responsible to ADD—to your faith.

KINDNESS:

1. Disposed (ready, willing, inclined, likely) to do GOOD to others.
 2. Disposed to make others happy by granting their requests.
 3. Having tenderness or goodness of nature; proceeding from tenderness or goodness of heart. Benevolent, as a kind act; a kind return of favors rendered.
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Examples of kindness:

1. Making a meal for someone who's sick.
 2. Visiting someone in the hospital.
 3. Sacrificing my time and energy and possibly money to make someone else happy.
 4. Supplying the wants of others or assisting them in their distress.
 5. The good Samaritan (Luke 10:33).
 6. Serving as a missionary.
 7. Supporting a missionary.
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Proverbs 31:26

There is a “**law of kindness.**” Laws are rules which govern behavior. The virtuous woman has a law that governs her tongue.

- a. Forbidding the use of cruel hurtful words.
 - b. Prohibiting words that would make someone else unhappy.
 - c. Making a constant effort to say something that will help someone or make them happy and put a smile on their face.
 - d. No gossip. No tale-bearing. No accusations. No cursing or cussing.
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Luke 6:35-36

We are instructed to love our enemies because God is always kind “**unto the unthankful and to the evil.**” We won't always be appreciated, but we are to be kind simply because it's the right thing to do.

- a. Treat others the way you want to be treated (Mt. 7:12) even if they don't treat you the way you want to be treated.
- b. Don't just love the people who love you back (Mt. 5:46).

Romans 12:10

Brotherly love means that I prefer that you have your way even if it means I don't get my way. I prefer to endure difficulty if it means your life is made easier. I'm happy to see you get a blessing even if it sets me back or hinders me in some way.

- a. We are told to be "kindly affectioned one to another." This is greater and deeper than passion.
 - **Passion:** emotion or feeling stimulated or aroused by the sight of the eyes.
 - **Affection:** the abiding genuine content of your heart. Lasting, abiding love that is not affected the absence of the object of your affection.
 - b. Kindness goes beyond being polite to people when you see them.
 - If you have added true kindness to your faith, you will no longer feel any ill will or bitterness toward people. In fact, you'll genuinely hope that they are blessed.
 - It won't just be an act that requires a great effort on your part to maintain. It will be the real you.
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Ephesians 2:7

God has been very kind to you from the day you were born. That kindness is going to be on display for all eternity.

4:7

God's kindness to me is set forth as the standard for me to be kind and tenderhearted to others.

- a. The Holy Spirit of God is in me. It is His desire to be kind to you through me. If I refuse to be kind to you, I am grieving the Holy Spirit.
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Titus 3:2-5

We [used to be] foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving various lusts and pleasures, full of hate, envy, and malice. Though we were all those things, God was kind to us. He wants us to show the same kindness towards others who are not perfect.

- a. God wasn't just kind to the people who earned it ("**not by works of righteousness**"), He showed me mercy and kindness even though I don't deserve it.
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