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<u>Kindness</u>- an eagerness to put others at ease. It's a sweet and attractive temperament that shows friendly regards.

- It means <u>benignity</u>, <u>tender concern</u>, <u>uprightness</u>.
- It is kindness of heart and kindness of act.
- The Greek word for "kindness" is **chrēstotēs**.
- The fifth characteristic, kindness, is called "gentleness" in the KJV.

#### 1. How did God show his kindness towards us?

Kindness is the characteristic that led God to provide salvation for us.

(Titus 3:4–5) <sup>4</sup> But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, <sup>5</sup> 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.

 God's kindness and love appeared in the incarnation of Jesus Christ. In His saving work, Christ models the kindness and love that believers must show all people.

## 2. What is God intent when he shows kindness?

(Romans 2:4) <sup>4</sup> 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?

**forbearance and patience:** Describe God's patience in delaying judgment and punishment of people who sin and break the law. Paul cautions against the Jewish assumption that the experience of God's goodness and mercy would exclude them from God's righteous judgment.

**Repentance:** The Greek word used here, *metanoia*, describes a change in mindset about sin and God. The purpose behind God's display of kindness, forbearance, and patience is not assurance, but repentance.

# 3. What happen when we exhibit the Kindness of God?

When we exhibit the kindness of God, we are tender, benevolent, and useful to others.

# 4. How do you express kindness towards someone that don't like you or hard to love?

• To maintain this attitude toward those we love is hard enough. To express kindness toward those who are against us requires the work of God.

(2 Corinthians 6:4–6) <sup>4</sup> Rather, as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: in great endurance; in troubles, hardships, and distresses; <sup>5</sup> in beatings, imprisonments, and riots; in hard work, sleepless nights, and hunger; <sup>six</sup> in purity, understanding, patience and kindness; in the Holy Spirit and in sincere love.

## 5. Do Kindness lead God to do things for us?

 Kindness leads God to give us <u>green pastures</u>, <u>guiet waters</u>, and the <u>restoration of our souls</u> when we're weary.

(Psalm 23:2–3) <sup>2</sup> He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, <sup>3</sup> he refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake.

 It is God's tender care that makes Him want to gather us under His wings, to protect us and keep us close to Him.

(Psalm 17:8) 8 Keep me as the apple of your eye; hide me in the shadow of your wings.

### 6. Name someone in the Bible that God expressed Kindness too?

- God expressed kindness when He provided for Elijah and the widow of Zarephath during a drought.
- He showed more kindness later when He raised the widow's only son from the dead (1 Kings 17:8-24)

 When Sarah exiled Hagar and Ishmael, God gave the outcasts kindness in the form of water and hope (Genesis 21:9-21).

# 7. Should kindness make you stop and help others?

On multiple occasions, kindness induced Jesus to stop what He was doing and help others in need.

(Mark 6:34) <sup>34</sup> When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So, he began teaching them many things.

### 8. How many of you are trying to emulate God in practicing kindness?

(Jeremiah 9:23–24) <sup>23</sup> This is what the Lord says: "Let not the wise boast of their wisdom or the strong boast of their strength or the rich boast of their riches, <sup>24</sup> but let the one who boasts boast about this: that they have the understanding to know me, that I am the Lord, who exercises kindness, justice and righteousness on earth, for in these I delight," declares the Lord.

- God wants His people to emulate Him in practicing kindness, justice, and righteousness.
- Israel had fundamentally failed to emulate these aspects of God's character.

#### 9. Is being Kind optional?

Being kind to one another is not optional for the people of God.

(1 Peter 3:8) <sup>8</sup> Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble.

Paul instructed the Ephesians to "imitate God, therefore, in everything you do, because you are his
dear children. Live a life filled with love, following the example of Christ.

### 10. Should Kindness be a part of your wardrobe?

(Colossians 3:12–14) <sup>12</sup> Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. <sup>13</sup> Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. <sup>14</sup> And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

# 11. How does kindness impact your ministry?

(2 Corinthians 6:6) <sup>6</sup> in purity, understanding, patience and kindness; in the Holy Spirit and in sincere love.

One of the proofs of a faithful minister of the gospel.

### **Conclusion:**

- Compassion and kindness are closely linked. Compassion can be defined as "heartfelt sympathy or empathy toward those who are suffering or in need."
- ✓ Kindness is the helpful spirit that sees someone else in need and is motivated to respond through good deeds. Kindness is the tangible action that results from compassion.
- ✓ Kindness goes beyond mere words; it translates into helping and serving one another. (Acts 28:2).
- ✓ Being kind to one another is how we show love: "Love is patient, love is kind." (1 Corinthians 13:4)
- ✓ Being kind to one another involves caring for others, bearing their burdens, and valuing them above ourselves. (Romans 12:10; Galatians 6:2; Philippians 2:3)
- ✓ Kindness motivates us to <u>speak life</u> and encouragement to others instead of death and discouragement. (Proverbs 16:24; Ephesians 4:29; 1 Thessalonians 5:11)
- ✓ Being kind to one another means finding a way to forgive rather than blame. (Matthew 5:7; Luke 6:36; 10:37; James 2:13)