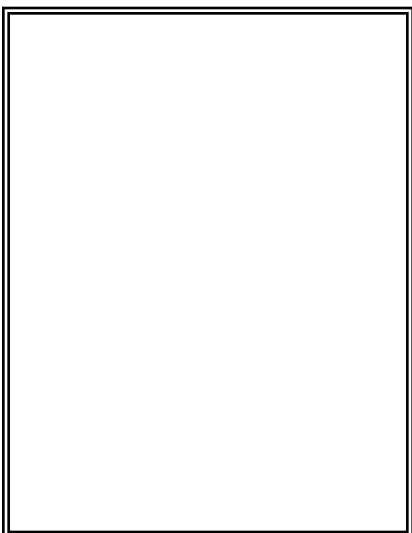




Week 1 - Kindness



Luke 10:25-29 (NLT)

²⁵ One day an expert in religious law stood up to test Jesus by asking him this question: "Teacher, what should I do to inherit eternal life?"

²⁶ Jesus replied, "What does the law of Moses say? How do you read it?"

²⁷ The man answered, "'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your strength, and all your mind.' And, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"

²⁸ "Right!" Jesus told him. "Do this and you will live!"

²⁹ The man wanted to justify his actions, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

NEIGHBOR: [πλησίον] plēsion – Biblical context[s]:

- a friend
- any other person, and where two are concerned, the other (your fellow man, your neighbor), according to the Jews, any member of the Hebrew nation and commonwealth
- according to Christ, any other man irrespective of nation or religion with whom we live or whom we chance to meet

Luke 10:36-37 (NLT)

³⁶ "Now which of these three would you say was a neighbor to the man who was attacked by bandits?" Jesus asked.

³⁷ The man replied, "The one who showed him mercy."
Then Jesus said, "Yes, now go and do the same."

Galatians 5:22-23

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

Kindness still **MATTERS**.

Kindness produces **KINDNESS**.

Kindness is always an **OPTION**.

1 Peter 3:8-9

⁸ Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble. ⁹ Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.

So What?

Wherever we encounter **PEOPLE**,
we have an opportunity to be **KIND**.

Ephesians 2:10

For we are God's
handiwork, created in
Christ Jesus to do good
works, which God
prepared in advance for us
to do.

Where do you need to **EXTEND** kindness?

Where do you need to **RECEIVE** kindness?

Notes:

***“Love is at the root of everything; all learning, all parenting, all relationships;
love or the lack of it.” - Rev. Fred Rodgers***



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How to start a relationship with God:

- 1) *Admitting* that you, like everyone, wandered & need to come home.
- 2) *Asking* God to forgive your sins.
- 3) *Saying YES* to God by trusting Jesus as Savior & Lord.

You can do that right now by simply talking to God in a prayer like this:

Dear Lord Jesus, I know I am a sinner, and I ask for Your forgiveness. I believe You died for my sins and rose from the dead. Today, I receive you as my Savior; and I put my faith in you as my LORD. Help me to look to you and follow you all the days of my life. In Your name, Amen.

For Further Reflection:

:: *Take time to recall/share a time you experienced kindness in your life.*

:: *Who was involved?*

:: *How did they make you feel by their kindness? Why?*

:: *What was the impact of their kindness in your life?*

:: *Read/Review the Parable of the Good Samaritan. [Luke 10:25-37]*

:: *What do you find most helpful or challenging in this parable?*

:: *Who do you most relate to in this parable? Why?*

:: *How do/should we define “neighbor” in our lives today?*

:: *Pastor Shawn said, “Kindness is always an option.”*

:: *What are some practical implications of that reality?*

:: *Where have you successfully/unsuccessfully chosen to be kind?*

:: *Identify at least one person who has made a difference in your life through kindness. If it is possible/appropriate, make an effort to acknowledge the difference they’ve made. [i.e. send a text, write a letter, tell them in person, etc.]*

:: *Who has God positioned you to be kind to? Identify one way you can demonstrate His loving kindness to them this week.*

:: *Ask someone you trust to pray for you & encourage you as you do it. Offer to do the same for them, or someone else.*

Unless otherwise noted, today’s Scripture is from the New International Version [NIV].

Shawn Cossin (@shawncossin) – September 7 & 8, 2019

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