

**Kindness**  
**Ruth 2:20**  
**By Russell Earl**

Thesis: I want to show the importance of kindness.

- Intro:
1. The definition of kindness: “Zeal towards another”.
  2. Kindness goes a long way and is much more important than many may think.
  3. Naomi was aware of the kindness of God (**Ruth 2:20**).

I. God is Kind, We too should be Kind

- A. God is a symbol of kindness (**Gen 39:21, Ps 117:1-2**)
  1. We are to be godly people.
  2. We cannot be godly without being kind.
- B. The lack of kindness can ruin the Christian. (**Pro 3:3**)
  1. Too many have ruined their reputation because of their unkindness.
  2. Not only that, unkindness can also bring a black eye upon the church.
    - a. Its hard to attract souls when the church has a reputation of having unkind members.

II. The Bible commands me to be Kind

- A. Honey or Vinegar? (**Col 3:12**)
  1. The Christian is to put on kindness.
  2. The idea of attracting more people with honey than vinegar.
  3. Kindness not only is an attractive quality in a person it is in a church as well.
- B. Commanded to be kind (**Eph 4:32**)
  1. Christians are commanded to be kind.
  2. Christians show love to others by being kind (**1 Cor 13:5**)
    - a. With all the scripture that tells us to be kind to one another, it would be sinful to not be kind to one another (**Rom 12:10**).
    - b. Kindness is part of brotherly kindness, part of being a Christian.

III. Kindness will help win others to Jesus.

- A. Speaking the truth in love (**Eph 4:15**)
  1. When speaking (teaching) truth we must do so with love.
  2. Just because you have the truth on your side, this does not give anyone the right to be rude or hateful.
    - a. Such attitudes will never draw someone to Christ but only push them away.
- B. The lost can see Christ in kindness (**1 Pt 3:1**).
  1. Kindness may draw some to Christ, one thing is true, rudeness never will.
  2. Kindness is good for everyone, a kind word can lift a person’s spirits and change their outlook on life (**Pro 16:24**)

IV. Lessons for us today.

- A. Kindness has a way of coming back to us (**Gal 6:7**)
  1. When you are kind to another, they in return, often times, will be kind to you as well.

2. Kindness to others has a way of encouraging others to be kind as well.
- B. Kindness is a basic characteristic of a Christian (**Micah 6:8**)
  1. We are commanded to do justly. It is unjust to be unkind to others.
  2. To be unkind will prevent you from “walking humbly with your God”.
  3. Lack of kindness is also one reason folks can seem arrogant or puffed up.
    - a. Thus, the lack of kindness can lead to more problems.

Application & Conclusion:

1. Kindness is part of being a Christian.
2. To be unkind, is to be unchristian.
3. Full Invitation

Non-Christians must:

Hear – James 1:22, Romans 10:15,17

Believe – Jn 12:44, Jn 8:24, Mt 16:16

Repent – Luke 13:2-3

Confess – John 12:42, Romans 10:9

Be Baptized – 1 Pt 3:21, Acts 22:16, Col 2:11, Mk 16:16, Rom 6:3-4

Live faithfully – John 14:15, Rev 2:10

Christians must:

Repent: Acts 17:20, Acts 8:37, Lk 13:3

Pray: James 5:16, 1 Jn 1:9