

WORD OF THE DAY



WORD OF THE DAY (Galatians 5:22-23)

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance(patience), **kindness**, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law." - NIV

MEDITATE ON THIS (Barriers to **KINDNESS**)



The Fifth Fruit of the Spirit is Kindness. A traditional approach to looking at the various attributes of the Fruit of the Spirit is usually done in the affirmative. By this, I'm speaking of providing definitions, literary tools (analogies, metaphors, allegories), and stories to give a clear understanding of that particular attribute. However for Kindness we are going to take a different approach. Instead of the traditional approach, I'm going to speak on barriers to kindness.

Lack of Time. Kindness is a demonstration of love in which we act upon the needs of another. This need can be a need for money, a need for time, a need for emotional support, or even a need for prayer. One primary barrier to kindness is when one tells themselves that they don't have enough time. As a result we often delay kindness and end up denying another the opportunity to be the recipient of God's love. When you think that you don't have enough time to be kind to another, look at it in the scope of eternity. The few minutes spent now will have rewards for an eternity.

Not enough for Me. Another barrier to kindness is the belief that if one is kind in the sharing of their resources they will not have enough for themselves. However when I reflect on life, I know of many people who went broke because they spent so much of their money on themselves, yet I've not come across one single person in my personal life who has gone broke because they were generous to others as God had led them. When we take care of God's business, God will take care of our business.

In the end Kindness is a choice and the only true barrier to Kindness is the choice made in the heart to favor the needs of self (time, resources, etc) over the needs of others.

-Your brother in Christ, **WNL**

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THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

The only barrier to kindness is the one you tell yourself.

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Dear God, thank you for your kindness. Please help me to not allow a fear of lack or a lack of time to serve as a barrier for my ability to show your love through kindness to others. In Jesus name I pray. Amen.



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