

## MINISTRY OF KINDNESS

### Scripture: Col 3:12

‘Clothe’ or ‘put on’ What kind of attitude am I going to wear today?

Kindness: Love in action is a choice.

Find the need and fill it, Find the hurt and heal it – Song

Kindness can be risky. We can be misunderstood by others.

We are to be kind for two reasons

- Rom 11:22 God is kind to us
- Matt 7:12 We want people to be kind  
Prov 21:21(GNT); Prov 11:17(Living Bible)

### WHAT IS MINISTRY OF KINDNESS?

#### **1. Being sensitive to others Phil 12:4**

- Being aware of the needs of those around us. Kindness always starts with noticing the needs and hurts of others.

- The root of many problems in marriage is insensitivity

- Example of sensitivity and kindness

David and Mephibosheth 2 Sam 9:7,8

#### **2. Be supportive in our talks Prov 15:4**

Talking about building up people rather than tearing them down. Nobody likes to be put down. Watch what you say to others. Prov 10:32 (GNT)

Kind people won't pounce on others' weaknesses nor embarrass others.

Lucy's story- Thomas Edison's mom

Gen 15: 19-21 Joseph

Kind words can build a bridge in a strained relationship. A Christian ought to speak kindly even when given the opportunity to retaliate. Benhur movie.

#### **3. Being sympathetic to others. Rom 12:15 LB**

Strong leaders are not afraid to show their emotions. Eg: Ronald Reagan. Weak leaders on the other hand worry about what others think. John 11:35, Titus 3:4,5

2 Tim 2:24 Kindness is a mark of spiritual leadership.

If we are not kind to our close people in private then our spiritual leadership in public is a drama. Bob Pears - world vision.

#### **4. Being straight forward Prov 27:6**

We sometimes have to hurt people in order to heal like doctors and surgeons.

James Dobson – love must be tough

Care enough to confront others. Eg: Gal 2 : Paul and Peter

When to be confrontational?

- Am I really committed to the other person's best interest?

- Do I have plans to stick around and help the other person to work out the change?

#### **5. Being spontaneous Gal 6: 10**

Do not wait to show kindness. Do it while we have the opportunity. Classic example – The Good Samaritan. Jesus told this story to remind us of all the people around us who

are hurting. The number one enemy of kindness is busyness. Ministry of kindness is for everyone.