****

Fruit of the Spirit: Kindness

Teacher: Pastor Joshua Kirstine

Date Taught: April 27, 2022

**HANDOUT NOTES**

* **Introduction**

**Galatians 5:22-23** …the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control ...

* **Fruit of the Spirit**

When the holy Scriptures talk about f**ruit,** it is talking about **character**!

It is the **fruit** or **the character** or **the attributes of a person**.

We don’t produce these things on our own because our flesh is not these things naturally; quite the opposite, as our flesh is full of selfishness, hate, sadness, impatience, meanness, sinfulness, unfaithfulness, harshness, and lack of control!

You don’t grow fruit; God grows fruit through you. Christian growth is not an effort to produce fruit ourselves, but it is, instead, our abiding cling to Jesus Himself and our growing into Him—the vine—that is to be our focus. We are to treasure Him, grow in Him, trust Him, honor Him, and be satisfied in Him.

* **Goodness**

**Goodness**: uprightness of heart and life.

Goodness is virtue and righteousness, not just for the sake of virtue but for the benefit of others. Goodness is virtue and righteousness in action.

What is good? God is good!

**Psalm 100:5** For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

**Psalm 106:1** Praise the Lord! Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!

**Psalm 34:8** Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!

**Psalm 31:19** Oh, how abundant is your goodness, which you have stored up for those who fear you and worked for those who take refuge in you, in the sight of the children of mankind!

**James 1:17** Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

**William Perkins**: “We must not think that God does a thing because it's good and right, but rather the thing is good and right because God does it."

**Psalm 14:1-3** The fool says in his heart, “There is no God.” They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds; **there is none who does good**. The Lord looks down from heaven on the children of man, to see if there are any who understand, who seek after God. They have all turned aside; together they have become corrupt; **there is none who does good, not even one.**

**Matthew 23:25-28** “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you clean the outside of the cup and the plate, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence. You blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup and the plate, that the outside also may be clean. Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs, which outwardly appear beautiful, but within are full of dead people's bones and all uncleanness. So you also outwardly appear righteous to others, but within you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.”

**Mark 10:17-18** And as he was setting out on his journey, a man ran up and knelt before him and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” And Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone.”

**Titus 3:3-7** For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another. But when **the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared**, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

**Romans 6:17-19** But thanks be to God, that you **who were once slaves of sin** have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, and, having been set free from sin, **have become slaves of righteousness**. I am speaking in human terms, because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness leading to sanctification.

* **What Does Goodness in Action Look Like?**
* **Goodness doesn’t look like evil**

**Isaiah 5:20** Woe to those who call evil good and good evil ...

**Romans 12:9** Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good.

**1 John 3:9** No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God's seed abides in him; and he cannot keep on sinning, because he has been born of God.

**John 16:13** “When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth ...”

* **Goodness blesses our relationships**

**Galatians 6:10** So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

* **Goodness makes much of Christ in our testimony**

**Matthew 5:16 “**In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.”

* **The Promise of God’s Goodness in the Life of the Redeemed!**

**Psalm 23:6** Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

**Psalm 31:19** Oh, how abundant is your goodness, which you have stored up for those who fear you and worked for those who take refuge in you, in the sight of the children of mankind!

**Psalm 109:21** But you, O God my Lord, deal on my behalf for your name's sake; because your steadfast love is good ...

**Romans 8:28** And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.