

## Kindness Matters

Scripture used: [2 Samuel 9:3-13 NIV](#)

### OVERVIEW

Today, Pastor Hurmon continued with the sermon series *Character Matters* with the sermon titled "Kindness Matters". He defined kindness as being friendly, generous, and considerate to others, but expanded the definition to look at the way that God's kindness in the world is truly transformative.

### KEY POINTS

- 1) **God is radically and unconditionally kind.** The Bible refers to this kind of love as agape love. [1 Corinthians 13:4 NIV](#) and [1 John 4:8 NIV](#) describes this love as radical, self-sacrificing and other focused.
- 2) **Kindness → Kin → Kinfolks → "the same kind"** We are to treat everyone whether we know or like them with "kinfolk" love. The Hebrew word for this is *chesed* which means loving-kindness, a faithful covenantal kindness that goes beyond the requirements of duty or expectation. It flows from God to His people.
- 3) **Recognizing the kindness of God in my story matters. It can fuel my desire to practice radical and unconditional kindness in our own lives.** David recognized that Jonathan had shown him the kindness of God while Jonathan was alive. Jonathan, the rightful heir to the throne of his father Saul, recognized David's anointing and sought to protect David as his friend. Many years later, to honor Jonathan, David wanted to show kindness to someone from Jonathan's family. In the same way, we can extend kindness to others to honor Jesus for the radical kindness He has shown us.
- 4) **There is power in acknowledging we are sinners. We are all the same kind.** When we can recognize that we are all "dead dogs", we can truly understand the restorative kindness of Jesus. We are all from the same family of sin, and yet, Jesus invites us into His family. He purchased our forgiveness with His blood shed on the cross. ([Ephesians 1:7 NLT](#)) In doing so, He invites us to eat at His table - not as a guest, but as His family. This is reflected in communion which we do in remembrance of Him. Jesus invites us into His family even though we are still "crippled in both feet". We are in the process of becoming the person God desires us to be. We are worth saving. Jesus' kindness saves us. His kindness secures His victory over death.
- 5) **Go and be radically and unconditionally kind.** Kindness matters in eternity. We can be God's expression of kindness in this world, because of the kindness we have received.

### DISCUSSION

- 1) **HEAR** - Ask God to help you reflect on His radical kindness for you. Where has He shown you exceptional undeserved kindness? How has His kindness changed your life story? How has the kindness of others affected you in the past?
- 2) **UNDERSTAND** - Take a moment to thank God for the radical kindness He has shown towards you. Take a moment to take note of some of the ways He has poured His kindness on you. Reflect on your own condition of being a "dead dog with two crippled feet" or in other words, a sinner. In light of that, how much more does Jesus' kindness mean to you? What will you say to His invitation to come to His table as His family to eat with Him for all eternity?
- 3) **DO** - Ask God to give you opportunities to practice His kindness this week. How can you honor Jesus by being radically and unconditionally kind? Join us next Sunday for Palm Sunday!