

OUR WORSHIP CELEBRATION MAY 31, 2020

Prelude

~The instrumental cue to gather and prepare for worship

Welcome - Chris Blackman, Pastoral Intern

***Call to Worship - Psalm 14**

~God's invitation for us to engage in worship in the Holy Spirit

***Weekly Congregational Response**

~Our humble response to God's call to worship

***Prayer of Invocation**

~The giving of thanks for God's promised presence and work among us

Song of Preparation and Praise - *Praise to the Lord

~Our celebration of God as our good and faithful Abba Father

***Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon - Titus 3:3-7**

~Our admission of our failures and need for Christ as Savior

***Prayer in Response to Our Assurance of Pardon**

Song of Comfort - *How Deep the Father's Love for Us

~Our praise of Jesus as our Savior

Pastoral Prayer - Cameron Barham

~Our prayer for the church gathered near and far

Sermon - The Fruit of the Spirit: Patience James 5:7-11

Song of Response - *Jesus With Thy Church Abide

~Our commitment to apply God's Word in and through our lives

***Announcements**

~Weekly opportunities to live out the Word read, confessed, prayed, sung, and preached

***Benediction - Galatians 6:14-18**

~God's parting blessing as we are sent out on His redemptive mission

**Stand*

“THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT: KINDNESS” LUKE 6:27-36 ROBBY BAXTER

Key Truth: We love God by relying upon and rejoicing in His kindness, and we love our neighbors by doing good to them in kindness, even to the sacrifice of our own self-interest.

Introduction:

Q: *For whom do you find it easy to be kind? For whom is it difficult? What does your kindness look like?*

Kindness: Because God loves to give good gifts to His children and has lavishly given us access as heirs in Christ to all of the heavenly blessings, we selflessly and generously seek to bless God in worship and obedience as well as provide for the needs of our neighbors in the wisdom of the Holy Spirit.

Luke 6:27-31: Be Kind as You Are Kind to Yourself

“Whenever I see a man, I must, of necessity, behold myself as in a mirror: for he is ‘my bone and my flesh’ (Gen. 29:14).”

John Calvin, **Commentary on a Harmony of the Evangelists: Matthew, Mark, & Luke**

“To love your enemies is to shed selfishness and the desirous and anxious self; it means the death of the solitary human being, but it also means the birth of our neighbor. In reply to the ironical question: ‘Who is my neighbor?’ Jesus answered: ‘Whoever has need of you.’ From that moment every human relation has been given a new direction in being given a new meaning.”

Denis de Rougemont, **Love in the Western World**

Q: *What makes the difference between the people you find it easy to be kind to and the people for whom it is difficult to be kind? What unique obstacles hinder you from being kind to certain people? How does the Gospel message and your union with Christ address those obstacles?*

Luke 6:32-36: Be Kind as Your Heavenly Father is Kind

“Jesus says that the true value of character is not that it secures safety to the men who possess it, but that it scatters blessings on other men. Those who have this character are the light of the world, are the salt of the earth. Men are to be men of holy character, true and gracious, not that they may secure their own safety, either for time or for eternity, but in order that from them light may fall on the pathways where men stumble and are lost; in order that they may exert the aseptic influence of salt, salt that hinders the spread of corruption and gives goodness in other people its chance.”

G. Campbell Morgan, **The Ethic and Evangel of Jesus**

Q: *In what ways have you seen the practice of kindness open up possibilities for reconciliation?*

Application:

Luke 6:27-36 teaches us that we are to be kind:

- as we are kind to ourselves, especially so that we can bless those who are against us
- as our Heavenly Father has been kind to us, especially in giving us the privilege to imitate Him by studying how to wisely bless others, and in joining Him in reconciling the world to Himself in Christ.

Benediction: Galatians 6:14-18