

Our Kindness and Goodness

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"But the Fruit of the Spirit is [Love](#), [Joy](#), [Peace](#), [Long-suffering](#) (patience), **Kindness**, **Goodness**, **Faith**, Gentleness, **Self-control**; against such there is no law. And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit." ([Galatians 5:22-24](#))

Kindness: from the Greek word ***xrestotes*** a noun which means: useful-kindness; profitable-kindness; kindness; generous and considerate behavior; especially in the sense of meeting real serviceable needs as led by God's Holy Spirit: thus being Holy Spirit led kindness through believers unto persons who are physically or spiritually in need. As a Fruit of the Holy Spirit, kindness functions more 'fruitfully' in unison with the other fruit of the Spirit, especially Love. Such Kindness is often manifested as: giving of alms, acts of mercy and charity, benevolent deeds, friendship, brotherly-love, blessing others; sharing the Good-news of salvation in Jesus, and many other ways. (the verb form is kind: ***chresteuomai***).

Goodness: from the Greek word ***agathosyne*** a noun which means: goodness; (from ***agathos***: meaning 'inherently good'); the quality of being morally good or virtuous; motivated by kindness and generosity rather than the hope of personal gain. Goodness is a virtue which is wholly within the nature: spirit, soul, and body, of a believer in Christ Jesus! The Greek word '***agathosyne***' is used four times in the Bible, and apparently nowhere else in secular Greek. As such this 'goodness' is Holy Spirit led goodness; in union with the other fruit of the Spirit, especially Love. Like kindness, Goodness is often manifested as: giving of alms, acts of mercy and charity, benevolent deeds, self sacrifice, acts of love towards enemies; etc. ... (the verb form is good, or doing-good: ***agathopoieo***).

Our Kindness and Goodness is established in us because the Father and Son first bestowed kindness and goodness upon us in and through our Lord Jesus. Please consider the following:

"But God, who is rich in mercy, for **His great love with which He loved us**, even when we were dead in sins, has made-alive us together with Christ; by Grace you are saved; and has raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places **in Christ Jesus**; so that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness towards us through Christ Jesus. For by grace you are saved through Faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God; not by works, lest any man should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto **Good works**, which God has ordained beforehand that we should walk in them." ([Ephesians 2:4-10](#))

"Behold therefore the **Kindness and severity of God**: upon those who fell, severity. But to you (who believe), **kindness**, if you continue in His kindness; otherwise you also shall be cut off. And they also, if they do not continue in unbelief, shall be grafted in; for God is able to graft them in again." ([Romans 11:22-23](#))

"Therefore, we also pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfill all the good-pleasure of His Goodness, and the work of faith with power; that the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and **you in Him**, according **to the Grace** of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ." ([2 Thessalonians 1:11-12](#))

"For you were formerly darkness, but now (you are) **Light in the Lord (Jesus)**; walk as **children of Light**. For the fruit of **the Spirit** is in **all Goodness** and righteousness and truth; proving what is acceptable unto the Lord; and have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness" ([Ephesians 5:8-11](#))

General acts of Kindness and Goodness are often things and ways by which we should treat other people; AND things and ways by which we should not treat people! Please consider the following:

"Therefore, putting away lying, speak every man **truth** with his neighbor; for we are members one of another. Be you angry, **but do not sin**; let not the sun go down upon your wrath; nor give place to the devil. Let him **who stole**, steal no more; but rather let him labor, working with his hands **what is Good**, so that he may have (something) to give to him who is needy. Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but (only) that which is Good to the use of edifying (others), so that it may administer grace unto the hearers. And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you are sealed unto the day of Redemption. Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice; and (instead) **be you kind one to another, tenderhearted (compassionate), forgiving one another**, even as God for Christ's sake **has forgiven you**." (Ephesians 4:25-32)

"Put them in mind to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, to **be ready unto every good work**, to **speak evil of no man**, to be not brawlers, **but gentle, showing all Gentleness (meekness) unto all men**. For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving various lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, **hateful, and hating one another**. But after the Kindness and Love of God our Savior toward man appeared; not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Spirit; which He shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior." (Titus 3:1-6)

Examples:

"Now there was at Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha, which by interpretation is called Dorcas (Gazelle). This woman was full of good works and alms-deeds which she did. And it came to pass in those days, that she was sick, and died; whom when they had washed, they laid her in an upper chamber. And forasmuch as Lydda was near to Joppa, and the disciples had heard that Peter was there, they sent unto him two men, desiring him that he would not delay to come to them. Then Peter arose and went with them. When he was come, they brought him into the upper chamber; and all the widows stood by him weeping, **and showing the coats and garments which Dorcas made**, while she was with them. But Peter put them all out, and kneeled down, and prayed; and turning himself to the body said, 'Tabitha, arise.' And she opened her eyes; and when she saw Peter, she sat up. And he gave her his hand, and lifted her up, and when he had called the saints and widows, presented her alive. And it was known throughout all Joppa; and many believed in the Lord." (Acts 9:36-42)

"There was a certain man in Cesarea called Cornelius, **a centurion** of the band called the Italian band, a devout man, and one who feared God with all his house, who gave **much alms to the people (the Jews)**, and prayed to God always. He saw clearly in a vision about the ninth hour of the day an angel of God coming in to him, and saying unto him, 'Cornelius.' And when he looked on him, he was afraid, and said, 'What is it, Lord?' And he said unto him, '**Your prayers and your alms have come up for a memorial before God**. And now send men to Joppa, and call for one Simon, whose surname is Peter; He lodges with one Simon a tanner, whose house is by the sea side; he shall tell you what thou ought to do.'" (Acts 10:1-6 see in context: verses 1-48)

Alms-deeds: from the greek word **eleemosynon** a noun which means: compassionate deeds; charitable-giving; acts of mercy, giving of alms, benevolent deeds; especially to poor and needy people. It is founded upon loving God and other people more than your own wealth and well being! It is as Jesus said: "It is more blessed to give than to receive." (Acts 20:33-35)

"Moreover, brethren, we do you to know of the grace of God bestowed on the churches of Macedonia; how that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded unto the riches of their liberality. For to their power, I bear record, yea, and beyond their power **they were willing of themselves (to give alms)**; beseeching us with much entreaty that we would receive the gift, and take upon us the fellowship of the ministering to the saints. And this they did, not as we hoped, but **first gave their own selves to the Lord**, and unto us by the will of God." (2 Corinthians 8:1-5)

"Take heed that you do not your alms-giving before men, to be seen of them; otherwise you have no reward from your Father who is in heaven. Therefore, when you doest your alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may have glory from men. Truly I say unto you: they have their reward. But when you doest alms, let not your left hand know what your right hand is doing; so that your alms may be in secret: and **your Father** who sees in secret Himself shall reward you openly." (Matthew 6:1-4)

Our Kindness and Goodness towards enemies:

Jesus said, "You have heard that it has been said, 'You shall love your neighbor, and hate your enemy. But I say unto you, Love your enemies, **Bless** those who curse you, **do Good to those who hate you**, and **Pray** for those who despitefully use you, and persecute you; so that you may be the children of your Father who is in heaven; for He makes His sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax-collectors do the same? And if you salute your brethren only, what do you more than others? Do not even the tax-collectors do so? Be **you, therefore, be perfect**, even as your Father who is in heaven **is perfect.**" (Matthew 5:43-48)

Finally, please consider the following:

"He who **shows mercy**, (do so) with cheerfulness. **Let Love** be without hypocrisy. Abhor that which is evil; cling to that which is Good. Be **devoted** one to another with brotherly-love, in honor preferring one another; not lagging in diligence; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord; **rejoicing in hope**; patient in tribulation; continuing steadfastly in prayer; **contributing to the needs of the saints**; **given to hospitality**. **Bless** those who persecute you: **bless, and curse not**. ... Be not overcome by evil, but overcome evil with Good." (Romans 12:8-14, ... 21)

Our Kindness and Goodness is in Jesus

It is founded upon His kindness towards us through Christ Jesus !
For we are the Father's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto Good works !
Goodness and Kindness happens when we first give of our own selves to the Lord !
And when we give of our own selves unto others by the will of God !
Let us Love one another with Kindness, Goodness, and brotherly-love !
Bless those who persecute you ! Bless, and curse not !
But but overcome evil with Good !!

Thank You Father Son and Holy Spirit for Your Goodness and Kindness !!
Thank You for Your Mercy shed upon us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior !!
Thank You for the exceeding Riches of Your Grace in Your Kindness towards us !!

All Praise and Glory and Honor is Yours Forever and Ever !!
Amen and Amen !!