AfterThoughts July 4, 2021

Sermon Title: Cultivated In His Character: Kindness

Scripture: Galatians 5:22–23

This week, Pastor David continued the sermon series, Cultivated In His Character, highlighting kindness.

Going Deeper:

- 1. God is not stingy with his kindness. Instead, Pastor David described the funnel of God's grace that flows from His common grace to both Christians and non-Christians then to His saving grace in the gift of salvation. What are some examples of common grace that you have experienced? How can you praise God for His saving grace in your life this week?
- 2. There is a redemptive quality to the kindness of our Savior; Jesus perfectly embodies both grace and truth. Which one of the stories that Pastor David highlighted touched your heart the most: the women caught in adultery (**John 8**); the leprous man (**Matthew 8**); or Zacchaeus (**Luke 19**)?
- 3. Pastor David shared that self-importance and self-protection are kindness thieves. When are you tempted to let these things keep you from showing kindness to others? How can you guard against these thieves in your life?
- 4. Kindness is not random, but it is rooted in thinking more about someone else than yourself. How will you embrace the "kindness prompt" of prayer and intentionality? What specific action will you take this week to show love in action to a family member, friend, co-worker, or neighbor?

Additional Discovery:

Psalm 145:9 Luke 6:35 Acts 14:17 Isaiah 63:7 Romans 2:4 Matthew 7:12 1 Corinthians 13:4

Common Grace – Common grace is the grace of God that gives all people manifold blessings that are not directly tied to salvation.

Earth's crammed with heaven, And every common bush afire with God, But only he who sees takes off his shoes; The rest sit round and pluck blackberries. ~ Elizabeth Barrett Browning

The Secret Thoughts Of An Unlikely Convert, Rosaria Butterfield

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. ~ Ephesians 3:20–21

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