



Fruit of the Spirit: Kindness + Goodness

Greet:

- Spend a minute getting a 30-60 second update from each student on what they are doing with their time, how they are feeling, etc. Within reason, be strict with the 30-60 seconds!
- Set proper expectations of how the group needs to operate so everyone can have a chance to talk and to not talk over each other.
- Ask someone to pray as y'all begin.

Follow Up:

- What ways did you practice patience this week? Did anyone have a time where their lack of patience got the best of them?

Opening Question/Thoughts:

- When you think about kindness and goodness, what comes to mind?
- Who is the most patient person you know?
- How would you normally define kindness and goodness before listening to teaching?

Dive In:

- **Goodness is using the skills and integrity you have for the benefit of other people.**
 - Who is a “good” person you know? What makes them good?
 - How does it make you feel when someone uses their skills and integrity to benefit you?
- **The Pharisees thought that they were good people because they compared themselves to other “not-as-good” people.**
 - Who do you compare yourself to to make yourself feel good?
 - What do you do that makes you feel like you are a good person?
- **Kindness is meeting the needs of others in God’s way. It’s treating people with the value God created in them.**
 - How is Jesus kind to the tax collectors in this story?
 - What keeps you from being kind to people? Makes you feel weak? They don’t deserve it? Feels awkward?
 - What one person specifically is it hardest to show kindness toward?
- **How has God been kind and good to you, even if you don’t realize it?**



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Apply:

- Do you see evidence of kindness and goodness or the desire for kindness and goodness in your life? How so? If not, what does that reveal about the Holy Spirit in you?
- **As a group, come up with a list of ways you can express kindness and goodness this week within these three categories (add more categories if you would like)**
 - **Words**
 - **Actions**
 - **Thoughts**

Pray:

- Thank God for the kindness he has shown you in your life specifically.
- Ask God to give you the strength to be good and kind towards other people.