

Sermon Discussion Questions

Fruit of the Spirit: Kindness – Matt Slocum
12 May 2024
Sermon Text: Exodus 34:6-8

AGENDA

- People arrive, talk, snack, and icebreaker – 5 min
- Worship – 5-10 min
- Prayer/Ministry Time – 20 min
- Discussion Questions – 35-45 min

PRAYER/MINISTRY TIME (20-30 min)

Ask for prayer requests. Ask for specific needs of group members.

MESSAGE INTRODUCTION

This week we continue our sermon series on the Fruit of the Spirit. In Matt's message this week on the fruit of Kindness, we learn that niceness and kindness, though often used interchangeably, are not the same thing. Let's take a deeper look at the fruit of Kindness and how it is supposed to grow and develop in our lives.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (35-45 min)

1. Last week you were asked to try the waiting exercise Matt demonstrated at the end of his message.
 - Sit up straight and relaxed.
 - Wait.
 - Pay attention to your body and surroundings. Do you feel anything? Do you see or notice anything?
 - Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to come?
 - Wait. Keep paying attention and looking.

Did you have the chance to try it? Did you feel or notice anything while you were doing this?

2. Was there anything that jumped out at you from Matt's message this week?

3. As Matt went through verse 7 of the text, it might have been different from how you've read or thought about that verse. Matt said a better translation of the original Hebrew would be "The Lord is merciful to thousands and punishes only 3 or 4". What do you think about this change? What does it do to your idea of generational curses?

4. At the end of his message, Matt went through the chart below. Take a few minutes in your group and talk about niceness versus kindness.

Icebreakers

Pick one of the icebreaker questions below and go around in a circle (starting with the leader) and have everyone answer. (If you have new members or guests have each person introduce themselves.)

1. Tell us about one special memory you have of your mom or mother figure while you were growing up/
2. What is/was your mom's favorite thing to do on Mother's Day?
3. What is your favorite type/genre of music?

Niceness	Kindness
I automatically say yes to things	I pause and wait on the Lord.
I compromise my integrity and boundaries to please others	I honor limits and boundaries God has given me.
I think everyone needs to like me	I know I won't please everyone
I think I am responsible for others' (actions, thoughts) control	I know I am responsible for myself (actions, thoughts)
I think it's a badge of honor to put everyone first	I know if God is first, there is no second place
Comes from manipulating others' view of me	Comes from knowing what move the heart of God

APPLICATION

This week, look at what you say and do and see where they fall. Do they seem to come from a place of niceness or from kindness (what moves the heart of God)?

COMING UP

To join a small group or find out more about what is going on, click on the NWC App, the website <https://nwckc.com>, or the New Wine Church Community Group Facebook page. Sermon study questions can be found in all three locations.

Small Group Leader Meeting, 15 May, 7:00 pm, at the church building. 7102 N. Prospect Ave Gladstone, MO

Youth Summer Camp, Grades 6-12, 17-22 June. To sign up or for more information go to: <https://subsplash.com/newwinechurch/lb/ev/+sywckrv>

Kids Camp, 10-12 July from 10:00am to 2:00pm at Power Play. Register here: <https://subsplash.com/newwinechurch/lb/ev/+sr5sc4m/register>

FINAL THOUGHT

When God moves in kindness, he creates a space around us that He inhabits.