

Living The Word Devotionals



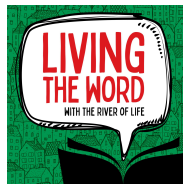
Kindness In Action



By Tim Cocanougher

Ephesians 4:29 Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.

There are many ways to exhibit kindness. You can loan a co-worker lunch money on a day he left his wallet at home. You can let someone who appears to be in a



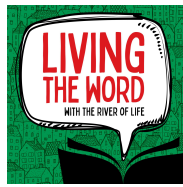
hurry cut in front of you at a check-out line. You can donate money to a homeless shelter.

People of all religions and people who have no religion often show kindness. You do not have to be a Christ believer to be kind. So, what is the primary difference when a Christ believer offers kindness verses a non-believer. I believe the primary difference is motivation.

Non-believers often offer kindness because it makes them feel good about themselves or it causes others to like them or say good things about them. For followers of work based religions, acts of kindness are often offered because they believe it gives them an extra check mark in their good category. In other words, the motivation in these situations is inward.

As Christ believers, our primary motivation in offering kindness to others should be to glorify God. So how do we do this? I think the first thing we should do is to seek God's face each morning and ask Him for opportunities to exhibit kindness for His glory. God knows before you leave your house each morning the people you will see that could use a good dose of Godly kindness. Your Heavenly Father would like nothing more than to use you as His instrument of kindness to someone in need.

If you pray this each morning, I believe God will answer that prayer. But, don't forget to be very vigilant, because it is very easy to get so caught up in your busy day that you miss opportunities God sends your way.



Also, do not forget to figure out a way for God, not you, to get the glory for your act of kindness. While only God can save, He so often uses the acts of kindness offered by His children in His name as a way to draw non-believers to Him.

When you think of it that way, we should eagerly ask God each morning to give us these type of opportunities each day.

How about you? Are you ready to pray each morning for God to use you in this way?

Make your move Christian.