

Family Worship Experience  
Kindness  
June 30, 2019

Introduction: Freedom Celebration: what to expect...bring a chair & \$1 for Sno-cones!  
[-newriver.academy](#) for updates...email list

I. Speaking of what to expect...!!!

A. Today is special...not just b/c of baptism...not just b/c of Freedom Celebration

B. Family Worship Experience...

1. New River Kidz Church
2. Here's why I like today:...b/c it's true...everything I needed to learn I learned in Kindergarten...!
3. So..it just seems natural that we periodically worship together as a family!!
  - a) We can learn from kids and hopefully they can learn from us!!

C. RK: they have been learning the Fruit of the Spirit...

1. Love, Joy, Peace, Patience

a) Kindness

2. July: Goodness, gentleness, faithfulness & self-control

D. Adults: back in late fall of 2018..."Divine 9!"

1. We learn that the Holy Spirit works with us...

- a) With the Spirit, we can use what God is doing in us to change to world.

II. Today...KINDNESS...

A. SLIDE:

1. Galatians 5:22-23

22 But the fruit the Holy Spirit produces is love, joy and peace. It is being patient, kind and good. It is being faithful 23 and gentle and having control of oneself. There is no law against things of that kind.

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B. Kindness!!

1. Kindness in our society/culture is simply this: **WEAKNESS...**
2. I honestly DO NOT hear the word used very often...
3. I heard this word **once...KINDERGARTEN**

a) Slide:

1. Share everything.
2. Play fair.
3. Don't hit people.
4. Put things back where you found them.

5. CLEAN UP YOUR OWN MESS.
6. Don't take things that aren't yours.
7. Say you're SORRY when you HURT somebody.
8. Wash your hands before you eat.
9. Flush.
10. Warm cookies and cold milk are good for you.
11. Live a balanced life - learn some and eat some and draw some and paint some and sing and dance and play and work everyday some.
12. Take a nap every afternoon.
13. When you go out into the world, watch out for traffic, hold hands, and stick together.

c. reflects how we treat other people...!

(1) This word: kindness is similar to the words caring and respect

D. Have you sensed a growing acceptance of rudeness and disrespect as being okay?

E. Somehow we have forgotten how to show KINDNESS...!

F. What has caused this uprising acceptance in the loss of Kindness...?

1. People are more:

G. SELF-ABSORBED:

a) People seem to be more impatient.

b) *Getting ahead whether at*

(1) work,

(2) at the grocery store...

(3) cafe

(a) disregard for one's fellow companions.

(b) Waiting in line or for any service is seen as an annoyance.

(c) PARKING SPACE

(d) Grab the coolest toy!

(e) On the highway,

(f) Cutting in line, swerving between cars, not paying attention when someone is talking to you, and

(g) talking loudly with your cell phone glued to your ear is actually rude.

(i) *Act like you agree with them...and their conversation...(especially when they say a name!)...you just personalized the joke!*

c) **Self-expression can be healthy...however, it cannot be healthy when it forces negativity on others...that's when self-expression becomes simply rude & disrespectful!**

d) Somehow, we have come to believe that **doing whatever serves us in the moment no matter what effect** it has on others is a right with an attitude of

(1) **"I can say anything I want, behave anyway I want, and do whatever I want and you need to accept me this way."**

## H. Why the Rudeness...?

### 1. Fear

a) You may think that the only way to **protect yourself, your beliefs or to feel safe is to disregard or mistreat others** in an attempt to distance yourself from those different than you.

b) **Intolerance of others' views, opinions, religion, way of life**, and **taking advantage** of their **vulnerabilities are indicators** that you are reacting from a place of fear.

### 2. Low Self-Esteem

a) A misguided perception is the idea that being **rude, demeaning** others, **retaliating or bullying** means you are **stronger or better** than another.

(1) It is actually a **sign of weakness and low regard for oneself.**

(2) The **level of disrespect** for others reflects the level of disrespect you have for yourself.

(a) When you **diminish others, you diminish yourself.**

## I. IT'S NOT ONLY EASIER TO BE RUDE...IT'S MORE SOCIALLY ACCEPTABLE...!

a) **It's how you get ahead...supposedly...!**

## J. We're in the middle of a kindness-famine

## III. Origin of Kindness ...

### A. SLIDE:

#### 1. CHRESTOTES (Kra-stot-tis)

2. (Greek) : useful moral excellence of character or demeanor, gracious, gentle, goodness, and kindness

## B. Location of the 'kindness' as fruit of the Spirit

1. Interesting: kindness follows patience...that must have been important to Paul...
  - a) In that...
    - (1) the 2 traits not only go together, but in that order...
    - (2) AND THEY ARE BOTH essential traits of LOVE...!
2. (long-suffering...forbearance)
3. 'Long-suffering': endurance of persecution
4. 'Forbearance': forgiveness of one another
5. Love, joy, peace, patience, KINDNESS...
  - a) Kindness (being kind) is one of the most recognizable traits of a 'loving person'
6. What is kindness?
  - a) Wanting to help others
    - (1) Encourage them
    - (2) Comfort them
    - (3) Serve them
  - b) What needs to happen to perform these acts...?
    - (1) You have to put yourself in their shoes...
      - (a) and then think...
        - (i) What would i need/want most right now...?
        - (ii) THEN: YOU DO IT...!!!
7. Kindness seems very close to what Jesus was talking about when He said:
  - a) "Do for others as you want done for you!"
    - (1) Do what you wish folks would do for you!"
    - (2) Kindness can be a...
      - (a) Word
      - (b) Smile, gesture...
  - b) MORE IMPORTANTLY:
    - (1) Kindness is being willing TO DO something..or take some ACTION...
      - (a) Even if it's inconvenient for you...!
        - (i) When somebody takes time out of their day to help me out...or get through something...

(a) It's considered KIND...!

**(2) NO REWARD...**

**(3) NOT a DUTY...simply done...**

(4) Sometimes probably cost something to the provider...

(a) But no reward expected...

**(b) DONE FOR THE SAKE OF KINDNESS...**

**(i) Kindness is its own REWARD**

**(ii) (think how much you respect  
and how well you think of a  
KIND-ACT...!)**

C. Let's look at how **God's kindness is described** and how it was used...!

**1. SLIDE: Luke (Physician..writing/describing character of God)**

**2. Acts 14:17**

**17 But God has given proof of what He is like. God has shown kindness by giving you rain from heaven. He gives you crops in their seasons. God provides you with plenty of food. He fills your hearts with joy.**

3. God is **Creator and Giver...larger than we understand...**

**a) Generous to all creation...!**

4. Paul wrote of **God's kindness!...**

a) Paul wrote from a place/understanding that God's kindness was **AVAILABLE to all of mankind...**

(1) But he **grieved and wondered** why people questioned God's kindness...

(a) Why would they reject something this **generous & KIND...!**

**D. Slide:**

**1. Romans 2:4**

**4 Do you make fun of God's great kindness and favor? Do you make fun of God when he is patient with you? Don't you realize that God's kindness is meant to turn you away from your sins?**

2. Then Paul goes on to describe **God's KINDNESS...**

a) In the **MOST SUPREME example... (Jesus)**

(1) **CHRESTOTES (Kra-stot-tis) excellence of character**

E. God's generosity & kindness...

1. **no REWARD...! No obligation...NO DUTY...!**

2. HIS **GIFT to mankind...**

3. an undeserving mankind...
  - a) God's kindness truly knows **no limits/bounds...**
  - b) **SLIDE:**
  - c) **Titus 3:4-5**

**4 But the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared. (God gave His Son as a gift to us) 5 He saved us. (why would He do that...?) It wasn't because of the good things we had done. It was because of his mercy. He saved us by washing away our sins. We were born again. The Holy Spirit gave us new life.**
  - d) God gave **His Son...Jesus...**
    - (1) Basically... **Jesus is**  
**"kindness-incarnate"**
4. If kindness is **putting others needs in front** of your own...!
  - a) Then here is the **PERFECT example...**
  - b) Walking...*living...breathing...true-life definition of KINDNESS*  
**(1)Kindness on 2 legs...**

## **F. Story time with Kids & sound effects..!!**

## **G. BRING KIDS UP!**

- H. Jesus even tried to **explain kindness** in one of His many stories...!
  1. "One thing you have to know **about Jesus was that He told stories all the time.**
  2. The stories **He told that are in the Bible all teach something**, and  
**a) He was a master at telling stories.**
  3. He'd tell stories about **people He knew or about God and His wisdom**, or He would just make **stories up using fictional people** and fictional situations.
  4. **But all of His stories—one way or another—had a really important point.**
  5. **Jesus went around teaching people through His stories**, and **huge crowds followed Him around**
- I. "But not everyone loved Jesus' stories.
  1. The **religious leaders didn't like what Jesus had to say at all, because Jesus' stories often questioned their teachings.**  
**a) So they looked for ways to trick Jesus and make themselves look better in the process."**
- J. "One day, while **Jesus was teaching**, a crowd gathered around Him to hear **what He was saying, as usual.**

- K. **Audience, everyone say the word ‘watermelon’ over and over, softly, to the people around you.**
1. It’s how we’re going to **make it sound like there’s crowd noise! And . . . go!**
- L. “Jesus asked him a question:
1. **“What is written in the Law? How do you understand it?”**
    - a) Luke 10:27
    - b) **“The expert replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul. Love him with all your strength and all your mind.” And, “Love your neighbor as you love yourself.”**
    - c) “The man was **quoting Scriptures from God’s law in the Old Testament.**
- M. “Jesus said to him:
1. **“You have answered correctly. Do that, and you will live.”**
  2. **“I imagine the crowd liked what they heard, so they started murmuring even a bit more!**
  3. **This time, repeat the words ‘watermelon’ a little more excitedly! Ready? Go!**
  4. **“The man, however, was trying to trap Jesus and make Him look foolish—all while making himself look good.**
    - a) **He asked Jesus: And who is my neighbor?**
  5. **Audience, I’m going to need an “Oooh!” Ahhh...!!**
  6. “Maybe the man wanted to prove that you **can’t really love EVERYBODY.**
  7. **After all, Jewish people hated Samaritan people.**
    - a) **Romans** didn’t get along with **Jews.**
  8. **But Jesus didn’t panic.**
    - a) **Instead of answering the man directly, Jesus decided to tell a story.”**
- N. the story Jesus told.
1. **This is where we’ll need some help from our sound engineers!**
  2. “A man was traveling from **Jerusalem to Jericho.**
  3. Let’s say he was riding on a donkey. **Can we hear some donkey hooves? DEER ANTLERS!**
- O. “That **donkey’s working hard.**
- P. **I bet he’s thirsty. Let’s let him take a drink.**
- Q. **“The donkey was slurping so loudly that the man didn’t hear some sneaky footsteps approaching. BOWL OF WATER!**
- R. **“Oh no! Robbers!**

- S. They had snuck up on the man, and they meant to steal all that he had!  
1. The robbers beat up the poor man. **UMPH...noise**
- T. “They ripped his clothes. **CONSTRUCTION PAPER**
- U. “They pushed the man over, and he fell to the ground! **(DROP SOMETHING HEAVY???)**
- V. “The robbers left the man there by the side of the road.
- W. They took his \$\$\$ and laughed as they went away!...**DROP COINS IN BOWL & GIVE A SINISTER LAUGH!**  
1. Then they called him a bad name..! **JUST KIDDING!**  
2. He was almost dead.  
a) All you could hear was the wind of the desert (**WIND**) and his steady, slow heartbeat. **PAPER TOWEL TUBE**
- X. Just barely hear his **HEARTBEAT:**
- Y. “Jesus didn’t say how long the man lay there.
- Z. But there was hope . . . because there was another man coming down the road! **SHOES**
- AA. “It was a priest—someone who served God in the Temple! Surely he would see this beaten-up man and help, right? **SHOES...WALKING AWAY**
- BB. “But the priest kept walking. He didn’t stop to help. In fact, he crossed to the other side of the road so he wasn’t near the poor man.
- CC. “The man was still lying on the side of the road when another person approached. **Let’s say this person was moving a little bit faster. SHOES..WALKING AWAY!**
- DD. “It was a Levite! This person would have served God, too. Surely he would show a little bit of compassion and help the man, right?  
**SHOES..AWAY..!**
- EE. “Nope. This Levite didn’t stop either. Not only did he NOT stop, he did exactly what the priest did—he hopped over to the other side of the road so he wouldn’t be bothered with this man and his problems! Yikes!
- FF. The poor man kept lying there.  
1. Maybe he waited so long that birds started to land near him.  
**RUBBER GLOVES: BIRDS**
- GG. “Maybe insects started buzzing around him. **BUZZ NOISE**
- HH. “Then one more man approached. Could this finally be someone who could help? **SHOES GETTING CLOSER**
- II. “Oh, no. It was a Samaritan. Samaritans HATED Jewish people, and they weren’t really known for helping anyone!
- JJ. But listen to what the Samaritan did. **Luke 10:33-35**  
1. “When he saw the man, he felt sorry for him. He went to him, poured olive oil and wine on his wounds and bandaged them.
- KK. Then he put the man on his own donkey. **ANTLERS!**

LL. He brought him to an inn and took care of him.

MM. The next day he took out two silver coins.

NN. He gave them to the owner of the inn." **2 QUARTERS**

OO. "Take care of him," he said. "When I return, I will pay you back for any extra expense you may have."

PP. "Jesus then turned to the expert in the law and asked him a simple question. **Remember...**

1. Jesus was telling this story to an expert in the Law.

a) So after Jesus told the story...

(1) He looked at the man who asked..

**(a) "Who is my neighbor?"**

**b) Jesus asked: "Who was the neighbor to the poor traveler?"**

2. Was it the priest, the Levite, or the Samaritan?

a) **Who do y'all think it was?**

3. YEP...it was the Samaritan...

**a) Jesus was telling them and telling us..**

**b) Your NEIGHBOR is anyone in need...**

**4. And Jesus said: "Go and do as he did."**

#### IV. KEYS!!!

1. "Let's give our sound engineers a big round of applause, shall we?"

**2. BOTTOM LINE: "Be kind to everyone..."**

a) ask your RK...what was the bottom line this week?...

3. "That means people who are like you and people who AREN'T like you.

a) Grown-ups!...

b) It's people who are **kind to you** AND people who **frustrate you.**

c) Sometimes you **might not feel like being kind** to someone because they **haven't been very kind to you.**

d) Grown-ups!...

e) But God wants us to be **kind to everyone.**

f) And **we can do it with the help of God's Holy Spirit!**

**g) With the Spirit, we can use what God is doing in us to change to world.**

h) Remember **how kind God has been to you.**

(1) That will help you show kindness to everyone you see.

B. Characteristic of Jesus...

1. Fruit of the Spirit...Trait...!

## 2. How do we develop kindness...?

a) Here's what it says in Colossians

b) SLIDE:

(1) Colossians 3:17

17 Do everything you say or do in the name of the Lord Jesus.

(2) I love this verse:

(a) "In the Name of..."

(b) Meaning...

(i) as if Jesus were PRESENT...

c) What would Jesus Do if He were actually here!

(i) Acting as though Jesus were working through me

(a) What would Jesus do for that person?

(2) I'm doing what Jesus would do if He were here at this moment...!

(3) Try this...Act as if the other *person were Jesus Christ!*

(a) What you are doing TO or FOR another person...

3. How about that person:

a) Traffic...Line

b) Airport

c) Co-Workers....

(i) 2 Questions arise

d) 1. What would I do for someone if I were Jesus Christ?

e) 2. What would I do for someone if they were Jesus Christ?

## C. THE OPPOSITE OF KINDNESS...that's easy to live out...

a) Heartless...

b) Thoughtless...

c) Abusive...

d) Selfish...

e) Self-seeking....

f) Self absorbed

g) cruel..

2. Be kind to everyone ...and it will ultimately draw them to Jesus Christ"

