

“LIFE HACKS”

Kindness

**Proverbs 15:1 A gentle answer turns away wrath,
but a harsh word stirs up anger.**

**Proverbs 11:16-17 A kindhearted woman gains respect, but ruthless men gain only wealth.
¹⁷ A kind man benefits himself, but a cruel man brings trouble on himself.**

-Webster’s Dictionary OF KIND: Affectionate and loving, of a sympathetic and forbearing nature. Showing or having a gentle, considerate nature.

SYMPATHETIC, GENTLE, CONSIDERATE!

OPPOSITE: NON COMPASSIONATE, RUDE & SELFISH.....ANGRY!

MANY PEOPLE DON’T VIEW THE CHURCH AS KIND!!!

Dr David Kinneman: UN CHRISTIAN

- 34% believed that Christians genuinely cared about them!
- Nearly 9 out of 10 young outsiders (87 %) said the term *judgmental* accurately describes present day Christians.

Research of thousands of non-Christians ages 16-29:

- Only 16% had a good impression of “Christianity”
- Only 3% had a good impression of “Evangelical” Christians
- Only 10% had a good impression of “Born Again” Christians

Instead of viewing us as kind and good hearted people.....many view Christians as hypocritical and judgmental people that argue all the time!

JESUS SAID WE WOULD BE KNOWN BY OUR FRUIT!

Matthew 7:16-17 By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thorn bushes, or figs from thistles? ¹⁷ Likewise, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit.

Galatians 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness and self-control.

FRUIT CHECK!!

THEY WILL KNOW WE ARE HIS DISCIPLES BY:
*OUR "LOVE"

Galatians 5:13-17 You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love. ¹⁴ For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁵ If you bite and devour each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other. ¹⁶ So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want.

LAST WEEK: SELFLESSNESS!

Philippians 2:1-2 Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, ² then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind.

-WHY ARE PEOPLE NOT OF ONE MIND?

Philippians 2:3-5 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, ⁴ not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. ⁵ In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

Kent Hunter's Research (he interviewed over 15,000 born again believers)

- 80% of evangelical Christians say the PRIMARY purpose of the church is for their personal comfort and care.

Jeremiah 9:23-24 This is what the LORD says:

"Let not the wise man boast of his wisdom
or the strong man boast of his strength
or the rich man boast of his riches,

²⁴ but let him who boasts boast about this:

that he understands and knows me,
that I am the LORD, who exercises kindness,

justice and righteousness on earth,
for in these I delight," declares the LORD.

-THE LORD DELIGHTS IN KINDNESS!

Romans 2:1-4 You, therefore, have no excuse, you who pass judgment on someone else, for at whatever point you judge another, you are condemning yourself, because you who pass judgment do the same things. ² Now we know that God's judgment against those who do such things is based on truth. ³ So when you, a mere human being, pass judgment on them and yet do the same things, do you think you will escape God's judgment? ⁴ Or do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, forbearance and patience, not realizing that God's kindness is intended to lead you to repentance?

1) WHO SHOULD I SHOW KINDNESS TO?

1 Thessalonians 5:15 ¹⁵Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always try to be kind to each other and to everyone else.

Luke 6:27-36 Love for Enemies

²⁷"But I tell you who hear me: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. ²⁹ If someone strikes you on one cheek, turn to him the other also. If someone takes your cloak, do not stop him from taking your tunic. ³⁰ Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back. ³¹ Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³²"If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even 'sinners' love those who love them. ³³ And if you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? Even 'sinners' do that. ³⁴ And if you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even 'sinners' lend to 'sinners,' expecting to be repaid in full. ³⁵ But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. ³⁶ Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

Colossians 3:12-14 ¹²Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. ¹³ Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the

Lord forgave you. ¹⁴And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

2) HOW DO WE STAY KIND?

Ephesians 4:32 ³²Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

FORGIVENESS IS A HUGE TOPIC IN THE BIBLE!

*We are all level at the foot of the cross!

Ephesians 2:4-9 But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, ⁵made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. ⁶And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, ⁷in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— ⁹not by works, so that **no one can boast**.

JESUS TOLD THE STORY OF AN UNMERCIFUL SERVANT:

Matthew 18:23-34 ²³"Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him. ²⁵Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt.

²⁶"The servant fell on his knees before him. 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.' ²⁷The servant's master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go.

²⁸"But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii. He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay back what you owe me!' he demanded.

²⁹"His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay you back.'

³⁰"But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. ³¹When the other servants saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed and went and told their master everything that had happened.

³²"Then the master called the servant in. 'You wicked servant,' he said, 'I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. **33Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?**' ³⁴In anger his master turned him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.

WE HAVE BEEN FORGIVEN MUCH AND SHOWN MUCH GRACE!!!

PRACTICAL APPLICATION:

- 1) Who can you show kindness to this week?
- 2) Random act of kindness!

2 Chronicles 7:14 if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.