

---

---

# Sermon Notes

October 6, 2019

First Congregational Church of Pomfret

## Be Kind Like God

Galatians 5:22-23, 2 Samuel 9

### What Is Kindness?

- ❖ Kindness is
  - an **ACTIVE** desire to recognize and meet the needs of others
  - a work of the Holy Spirit that causes you to become sensitive to the needs of others
    - kindness rarely costs you any money or makes much demand on your time
    - kindness springs from a sincere desire for the happiness of others
- ❖ Growing in kindness
  - increases your devotion to God
  - causes your character and conduct to be more like God

### The Kindness of God

- ❖ In Luke 6:35, Jesus tells us that God is *kind to the ungrateful and the evil*
  - we are not just to be kind to our friends and people we like
  - if we want to be like God, we will be kind even to our enemies and those who don't appreciate our kindness
- ❖ God shows kindness to us even when we were His enemies and dead in our trespasses, transgressions and sins
  - God raised us up with Jesus (Ephesians 2:4-7)
  - *when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us* (Titus 3:4-6)
    - the NT consistently paints all that is appealing about God's kindness against the backdrop of how completely undeserving we are of God's kindness
    - kindness is a reflection of God's nature and being

### Showing God's Kindness to Others

- ❖ If you want to show your family resemblance with your Father in heaven, you must aim at the high standard of God's kindness

## Personal Reflection

- you need supernatural help to do this
- at the same time, you must actively put kindness "into play"
  - kindness leads to ACTION
  - the story of the two farmers
- ❖ Kindness is never wasted
  - even if you cannot see the difference kindness makes, when you display unwelcomed, unappreciated kindness to others, it brings glory to God
  - God doesn't turn His back on the ungrateful, neither should you!
- ❖ David's kindness to Mephibosheth (2 Samuel 9)
  - David **SEARCHES** for a surviving descendant of Saul so that he can show kindness to him for the sake of his friend, Jonathan (2 Samuel 9:1)
  - David wants to pass the kindness of God he has received on to someone else (2 Samuel 9:3)
    - did David have to do this?
    - did David have to do something so extravagant?
- ❖ If you belong to Jesus, you have received freely and you can freely share God's kindness with others

1. In what ways has God been kind to you?
2. Why should you be kind to people who are ungrateful? Do you have any "enemies" to whom you can show kindness?
3. Think back over the past few days. What opportunities has God given you to show kindness to someone at work or at home? Have you had opportunities to show God's kindness to a fellow believer? an unbeliever? How did you use any of these opportunities?
4. What thoughts about showing kindness to others does the account of David's kindness to Mephibosheth in 2 Samuel 9 inspire in you? What will you do about that?