

Loving Kindness 1 Corinthians 13:4 Sermon Discussion Participant Guide

Purpose of Discussion: To learn to show undeserved kindness to others

Sermon Refresher: Dave continued our series through 1 Corinthians 13. This week he focused on kindness.

Icebreaker: What do you like about the Super Bowl? What traditions do you have when you watch the Super Bowl?

Discussion:

Read:

1 Corinthians 13:1-4

¹ If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. ² If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. ³ If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. ⁴ Love is patient, **love is kind**. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.

1. Dave underscores Paul's point when he said that love is the most important thing we can do with our life. What besides love do we think makes us important? And, how does this make us think differently about love?
2. What keeps us from showing kindness to others?

Read:

Titus 3:1-7

¹ Remind the people to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready to do whatever is good, ² to slander no one, to be peaceable and

THE **crossing** **small groups**

considerate, and always to be gentle toward everyone. ³ At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another. ⁴ But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, ⁵ he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.

3. What do you notice about God's kindness towards us?
4. A Jesuit once said of Dorothy Day that she lived "as though the truth were true." How is showing kindness living in the truth? How does the truth that God has shown us kindness enable us to show kindness to others?
5. What would Paul's unpacking of the kindness we are to show others in verses 1 & 2 look like practically in our lives? What else should kindness look like?
6. What is powerful about showing underserved kindness to others?
7. Who is someone we can show kindness to this week?

Sharing and Prayer:

Often the first step of showing kindness to someone is to pray for them. Take time to have each person pray for the person they just mentioned. Close by praying for our own growth in kindness.