

Re-Calibrate- Kindness.

Sermon Notes

July 11, 2021

Galatians 5:22-23

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

To know God is to understand his kindness. **Jeremiah 9:23-24**

- God “exercises” his kindness (*hesed*) liberally not hesitantly.
 - Rooted in the idea of compassion to friend, family, and stranger. HBD
 - It is a mindset of meeting the needs of others.
- This kindness is in light of his justice and righteousness.
 - Justice- in bringing account to the guilty and vindication to victim.
 - Righteousness- in restoring right-relatedness with him.
- Biblical example of man understanding God. **2 Samuel 9:1-8**
 - David was a man who walked with God and the Spirit was upon him. 1 Samuel 16:13
 - David had every right (justice) to be bitter and vengeful towards Saul’s offspring.
 - David instead showed kindness to Mephibosheth.
 - This brought healing to two households—righteousness.
 - A united nation.

Kindness serves the greater purpose of leading people to repentance.

Romans 2:1-4

- Misunderstanding God is to judge someone in ignorant hypocrisy. (3)
- Misunderstanding God is to forget God’s kindness shown to you. (4a)
- Misunderstanding God is to neglect the journey he took you on to get you to the place of repentance. (4b)

***Illustration:** unwarranted pizza.

God’s expectation of us is to conform to what pleases him. **Micah 6:8**

Micah 6:8 *“He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And does the Lord require of you? To act justly and love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.”*

- God is pleased by one who acts justly.
 - Living as one who lives a standard fairness regardless of account.
- God is pleased by the one who loves kindness (*hesed*).
 - Being a person who is driven to meet the needs of others—friend or foe.
- God is pleased by the one who walks humbly with God.
 - Living as a person who understands their constant need of God’s guidance, correction, and presence because repentance brings a new path.

Benediction

Titus 3:4-7 *“But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, ⁵ he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.*”

Discussion Guide:

1. What is the greatest act of kindness you have ever received? What was the impact it had on you?
2. Read **1 Samuel 9**. What are some of the ramifications of David’s act of kindness towards Mephibosheth?
3. Considering **Romans 2:1-4**, how does kindness by God and through his church lead others to repentance?
4. Read **Jeremiah 9:23-24**. How is it that we understand God more by considering his kindness? How do we evidence a personal misunderstanding of God by a lack of kindness in our own lives?
5. In light of **Micah 6:8**, why is kindness, justice, righteousness, and walking humbly with God his expectation of us? What is God desiring to accomplish in us and through us by this challenge?