

One Act of Kindness

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Mark 12:31 *Love your neighbor as yourself*
John 13:34 *A new commandment I give*
John 15:12 *This is my commandment*
John 15:14 *Ye are my friends, if ye do*
Romans 13:8 *Owe no one anything except love*
Romans 13:9 *The commandments are summed*
1 Cor. 13:1 *Though I speak with the tongues of*
James 2:17 *If faith stands alone, it has no life*
1 Peter 1:22 *Since you have purified your souls*
Leviticus 19:18 *Never seek revenge or bear a*

1 By one act of kindness a life can be impacted and changed forever! We need to ask ourselves if we have acted from love and have always treated others with kindness.

2 Jesus told His friends AV John 13:34 “*A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also [must NIV] love one another.*”

3 35 *By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.*”

4 He says we **must** act from love and repeats the command several times AV John 15:12 “*This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.*”

5 13 *Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. 14 Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.*”

6 The change that is needed in all of us is so urgent and necessary that Jesus repeats it

John 15:17 “*These things I command you, that ye love one another.*”

7 We all want to be His friend, but do we all follow His advice? Somehow the command to **love** does not get through to us, so it has to be repeated.

8 The definition of love: *An action directed toward another motivated by our love for God and given without thought of personal reward.*

9 We may admit that we lack *faith* at times but are seldom ready to admit that we lack *love* for others.

10 Most of us are concerned for those who lack food or shelter, but we are not so concerned about using unkind, hurtful, or insensitive words.

11 Nevertheless, *love* is not *love* until it is put into action. If we say to someone NKJV James 2:16 “*Depart in peace, be warmed and filled,*” but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit?”

12 Love like electricity is not worth much unless something happens as a result of it. Love must be expressed for it to be real.

13 The apostle adds NIV 17 “*In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.*”

14 In a world that *couldn't care less* we are to be those who *care more for others!* NKJV Romans 13:8 “*Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law.*”

15 It is a *continuing debt* to pay by *continuing* to love others. The apostle pens eight verses for us to *love one another.*

16 NKJV 1 Peter 1:22 “*Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart.*”

17 This is supported in the O.T. NLT Leviticus 19:18 “*Never seek revenge or bear a grudge against anyone but love your neighbor as yourself. I am the Lord.*”

18 The first commandment is to *love God* with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength—and is directly connected to NIV Mark 12:31 “*Love your neighbor as yourself.*” *There is no commandment greater than these.*” Love is the key to solving so many problems in our lives and in the world.

19 The apostle repeats Jesus' words—NIV Romans 13:9 “*The commandments, "Do not commit adultery," "Do not murder," "Do not steal," "Do not covet," and whatever other commandment there may be, are summed up in this one rule: "Love your neighbor as yourself."*”

20 A few verses later Jesus told the man NKJV Mark 12:34 “*You are not far from the kingdom of God.*”

21 People today insist on being in contact with their friends with text messages and phone calls. The need to be in touch with others comes from a deeper need to be loved and accepted.

22 AV 1 Corinthians 13:1 “*Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not [love], I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.*”

23 We think of how many problems would dissolve, if people acted from *love* and *kindness*, rather than from *anger* and *resentment*.

24 A multitude of world problems would be solved overnight if just one person would do *one act of kindness* each day.

25 Love is such a powerful emotion—NIV 1 Corinthians 13:7 “*Love always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. 8 Love never fails,*” and love never fails to *act* in a way that *helps* someone or *encourages* them.

26 Although this can seem difficult to carry through with showing love for others—it is possible because “*All things are possible with God*” Matthew 19:26. It is our choice to ask for God's help when a response must be made.

27 “*Love is patient*” but patience must be learned. Patience is connected to love as a fruit of the Spirit Galatians 5:22-23.

28 The definition of *patience* is *putting up with something without complaining, loss of temper, or irritation.*” In the original Greek it means *long-suffering* or *patiently enduring.*

29 The world reacts opposite to *patience* in this *instant-everything* culture. It seems that everyone is easily annoyed and very impatient.

30 The apostle writes AV Romans 5:3 that “*We glory [rejoice NIV] in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience.*”

31 NKJV James 1:3 “*knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience.*”

32 The apostle said NIV 2 Corinthians 11:24-25, “*Five times I received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one. Three times I was beaten with rods*”—and enduring much serious persecution, but God used these trials to produce *patience* and *spiritual growth.*

33 How many trials and tests must we go through to learn *patience*?—and the answer depends on our response to those trials and tests.

34 If we have made a sincere commitment to trust God, we will be tested until the lesson is learned. The fruit of *endurance* is a by-product of our love for God.

35 Patience and kindness are in short supply today, but they should *not* be lacking in us, since they are fruits of the Spirit, and we are to be a witness for Christ. Kindness is thinking about *others*—not our own needs.

36 Jesus healed a woman on the Sabbath Luke 13, but this *act of kindness* angered the synagogue ruler.

37 Jesus considered the woman’s *healing* far more important than following the law.

38 The ruler said 14 “*There are six days for work. So come and be healed on those days, not on the Sabbath.*”

39 The Lord answered 15, “*You hypocrites! Doesn’t each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or donkey from the stall and lead it out to give it water?*”

40 16 *Then should not this woman, a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has kept bound for eighteen long years, be set free on the Sabbath day from what bound her?*”

41 These religious leaders were rebuked for being more considerate of animals than for a fellow human.

42 They were so focused on the *law* they forgot *love*—they were so interested in *tradition* they forgot *mercy.* 1 Corinthians 13:3 “*If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing.*”

43 After receiving the gift of the Spirit, the first century church grew, and the Word of God spread.

44 They gave a message of God’s truth through acts of kindness—and just following the instructions of their Master to “*Go and do likewise*” Luke 10:37.

45 They watched as Jesus wrote in the sand while a woman’s accusers stood around and fired questions.

46 They had seen Him hug little children and noticed how He reached out in love to all who needed His attention.

47 They heard Him tell Zacchaeus that He would eat dinner at his house—when everyone else pointed fingers and judged intentions.

48 A little kindness shown to someone can do far more to reveal the love of Christ, than anything we could say. A *kind act* is more effective than a *long speech.*

49 Again: *I have wept in the night, for the shortness of sight—that to someone’s need I was blind. But I have never yet, felt a twinge of regret, for being a little too kind.*

50 By the grace of God, and by the power of His Spirit, let us show a little more kindness toward anyone we meet along life’s path.

51 Before we pass information about anyone or anything, let us ask: *Do they need to know this? Will this help or hurt them?* 99% of the time, the information should *stop* with us.

52 Instead of talking *about* people we should be praying *for* them—asking God to solve any issue they may be dealing with.

53 Our instructions are clear: AV Luke 6:35 “*Love ye your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest: for he is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil.*”

54 Jesus continues to instruct us on the *Path to Paradise*—AV Luke 6:36 “*Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful.*”

55 To show mercy is to not use hurtful words about them. 37 “*Judge not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned: forgive, and ye shall be forgiven.*”

56 If we want to be part of God’s family of believers—just “*Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you*” NIV Ephesians 4:32.

57 When we are *kind* to another, the world has a *glimpse* of God’s love in action—that is why we always remember how someone *treated* us.

58 *One act of kindness can impact a life forever*—and *one act of kindness* could *save their soul for eternity!*



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