

KIND LOVE

1 Corinthians 13:4

Love is...kind;

It just is. The word Paul uses here means to be kind, loving, and merciful. One commentator defines it as extending *good* to others, while others include compassion in its meaning.

Ephesians 4:32

Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

It is said that this attribute of love is what overcomes evil.

Romans 12:20–21

²⁰ To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Colossians 3:12–14

¹² Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, ¹³ bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴ And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

As Clint Black sang of love in 1997, "But it isn't something that we find, have or are in; It's something that we do." Moreover, it isn't only something reserved for our most favorite humans.

Luke 6:34-36

34 And if you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount. 35 But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. 36 Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.

It is for all, just as the Lord's kind love was shown to us in his incalculable grace (John 3:16-17).

Ephesians 2:7-8

7 so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God,

If true, kind love is going to be manifested in our lives, it will only come from yielding our lives to him and being filled with his spirit (Gal. 5:22). With this in mind...are you being kind? The words we speak and the actions we take communicate something. Does your love act with compassion, mercy, and kindness towards friend and foe? Are you a graceful person? Love is kind, and it is the mark of our Lord.

Eyes up!

Ryan