

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT--GENTLENESS

(Galatians 5:22,23)

INTRODUCTION:

- A. We have dealt with Love, Joy, Peace, and Longsuffering. Now with Gentleness or kindness.
- B. This is not like longsuffering which is passive.
- C. Kindness is positive and very active.
- D. This word primarily has to do with doing good to those who have wronged us.
- E. Kindness requires even greater strength than longsuffering.
 1. One says "He wronged me, but I will do him no harm" but better to say "He wronged me and I will seek ever opportunity to do him good."
- F. Jesus taught us this principle. Luke 6:27,28; Matt. 5:44,45

I. THE BIBLE ABOUND WITH EXAMPLES OF KINDNESS.

- A. Rahab to the spies. Jos. 2:6-16
- B. David to Mephibosheth. 2 Sam. 9:1-13
- C. Joseph to Mary. Matt. 1:18-25
- D. Centurion to his servant. Luke 7:2-6

II. CHRISTIANS MUST BE KIND TO ONE ANOTHER.

- A. God has been kind to all of us. Eph. 2:7; Tit. 3:4; Rom. 2:4
- B. Every Christian must be kind. Eph. 4:32
 1. It is one of the properties of a good wife. Pro. 31:26
 2. It is to be the property of every Christian. Col. 3:12,13
 3. Every Christian must practice kindness! 2 Pet. 1:5-11
- C. Love is the basis for kindness. 1 Cor. 13:4
- D. Kindness cannot be practiced, given away or taught unless we possess it!!!

III. GENTLENESS BRINGS SALVATION.

- A. Those who possess the wisdom from above are gentle. Jam. 3:17
- B. It takes kindness to save souls. 2 Tim. 2:24-26
- C. We ought to be kind because we once were in the same lost condition. Titus 3:1-5
- D. Elders, deacons, preachers, church leaders must be gentle with brethren. 1 Thess. 2:7

CONCLUSION:

- A. We will be judged by our kindness or lack thereof. Matt. 25:31-46

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT--GOODNESS

(Galatians 5:22,23)

INTRODUCTION:

- A. David had confidence in God's goodness. Psa. 23
- B. David said God's goodness was extended to all who would believe and obey Him. Psa. 31:19
- C. Thoreau "Be not merely good; be good for something"
 1. D. J. Hamilton "Goodness is love in action, love with its hand to the plow, love with the burden on its back, love following his footsteps who went about continually doing good."
- D. Goodness "The state or quality of being good; Excellence of character, morals and virtue; generous and kindly feelings, benevolence, goodness of heart"

I. FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT--GOODNESS.

- A. This word is only found 9 times in the NT. Only 4 times is it the word of our text.
- B. Longsuffering=Bearing injury.
 1. Kindness, Gentleness=returning good for evil.
 2. Goodness=primarily the motives for speech and conduct.
- C. Often our motives are misjudged.
 1. This is easily done for only one to truly know is self.
 2. Sometimes our motives are revealed but usually hidden.
- D. Jesus dealt with a man's motives:

Matt. 9:4 "And Jesus knowing their thoughts said, Wherefore think ye evil in your hearts?"
cf. Matt. 15:8,9; Matt. 15:13-20
- E. It is not enough to have a legalistic attitude like the Pharisees. We must act from the proper motives. cf. Amos 5:21-27

II. OUR FATHER IS FULL OF GOODNESS.

- A. God is good. Rom. 11:22
- B. The Psalmist declares God's goodness. Psa. 23:6; Psa. 27:13; 31:19; 33:5; 107:8,9,15,21,31
- C. His goodness should lead us to repent. Rom. 2:1-4

III. WE MUST BE GOOD!

- A. This was Paul's prayer for the Thessalonians. 2 Thess. 1:11,12
- B. We must bear this fruit to be pleasing to the Lord. Gal. 5:22,23; Eph. 5:9
- C. Paul praised the Romans for their goodness. Rom. 15:14

CONCLUSION:

- A. We must seek to be like Jesus. Acts 10:38
- B. We will not only be judged by our actions but also by our motives. Luke 16:15; Eccl. 12:13,14

NEWS AND NOTES

“I was sick, and ye visited me...” (Matthew 25:36)

Please look to the elders for any and all updates to the announcements this week. Martha and I are just getting home from West Virginia and have not been able to identify those who may be sick and in need of our prayers. Please consider the list of sick and pray for all of them this week.

Please remember to check the bulletin boards for additional ones on our prayer request list who are sick and confined.

Upcoming Events:

New Family Bible Study Questions are on the *Missions Table* in the foyer for everyone to pick up and use. *Ukraine Mission Buckets* for April are TBA.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Gospel Meeting -- April 23-26, 2023 with Jared Knoll from Wing, Alabama.
Vacation Bible School -- June 11-14, 2023 Theme for 2023: “Under God’s Construction”
Ladies Day honoring all the ladies 65 and over -- July 29, 2023
Gospel Meeting – October 22-25, 2023 with Kenny Townsley from Cave City, Arkansas.
Gospel Meeting – April 21-24, 2024 with Micah Robertson from Ronan, Montana.

Those Privileged To Serve April 16, 2023

SUNDAY MORNING

Song Leader: Scottie Blanchard
 Opening Prayer: Barry Roush
 Closing Prayer: Kevin Roush
 Bible Reading: Larry Darr
 Preacher: Terry Joe Kee

LORD’S TABLE

Presiding: Stacy Eddleman
 Larry Taylor Scott Pratt
 Tristan Pynn Robert Stephens
 Mitch Mosley Tom Carner

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Randy Oden

SUNDAY EVENING

Song Leader: Larry Taylor
 Opening Prayer: Jerry Dodson
 Closing Prayer: James Johnson
 Preacher: Terry Joe Kee

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

April 12, 2023

Song Leader: Ben Johns
 Opening Prayer: Scottie Blanchard
 Closing Prayer: Jerry Dodson

DEVOTIONAL SPEAKER

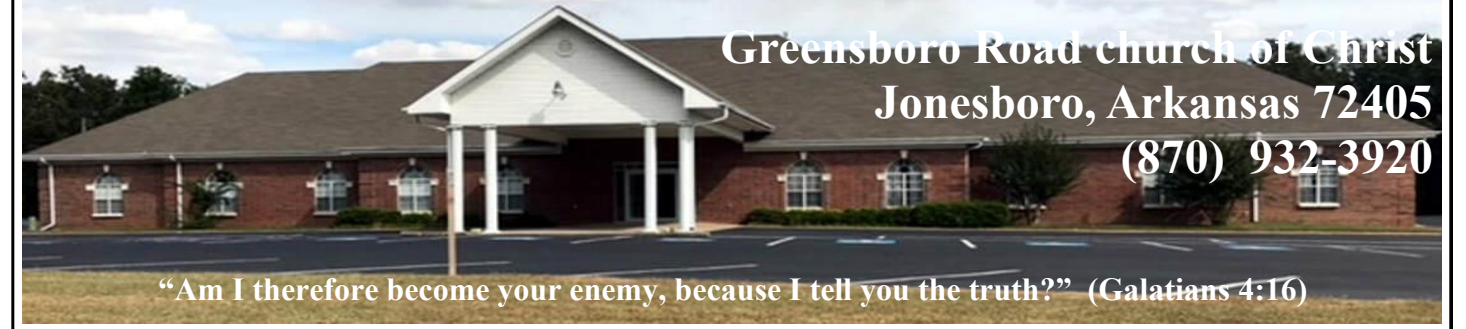
April 12, 2023
 Stacy Eddleman

NUMBERS FOR THE WEEK Week Of April 9, 2023

Sunday Bible Study
 Sunday AM Worship
 Sunday PM Worship
 Wednesday Bible Study
 Contribution \$

“I will be glad and rejoice in thee: I will sing praise to thy name, O thou most High.”
Psalm 9:2

The Friend of Truth



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Paul’s Prayer Is Mine

As you read the New Testament take time to notice how often Paul tells others he is praying for them. He not only prayed for them but asked that they pray for him (I Thess. 5:25). It is often in prayer that we see the soul of the one who is praying. This is so obvious in Paul’s prayer for the church at Colosse.

Read Colossians 1:9-11 and note the nine things he was praying would happen in the lives of those great Christians. He prayed that they might:

- (1) Be filled with the knowledge of His will
- (2) Have wisdom
- (3) Have understanding
- (4) Walk worthy of the Lord
- (5) Be pleasing to the Lord
- (6) Be fruitful in every good work
- (7) Be increasing in the knowledge of God
- (8) Be strengthened by His glorious power
- (9) Have patience, longsuffering, and joy

Read the list again and visualize what would happen when this prayer was answered!

I want you to know that this is my prayer for you. My life has truly been blessed by the thirty-one years we have labored together and I still believe the best days lie ahead of us. Success will not come without effort, but I think I know your hearts. May God help us to accomplish great things for His glory.

Paul’s prayer is my prayer. With hearts that are filled with knowledge that is always increasing, may we have wisdom and understanding as to how to apply this in our lives. May we together walk worthy of the sacrifices He made for us and please Him. May we be fruitful because God is working in our midst and strengthening us by His power. May we be steadfast, unwavering in devotion, and willing to suffer because of the joy set before us.

Will you take time today to reflect on your life and see what changes can be made to ensure that Paul’s words become a reality? Will you honestly look at where you are and plan the steps which must be taken to arrive at greater spiritual heights? Will you dream with me of the great things that God can do with us and through us in this church? Will you set aside time and pray for this church? Pray for me. Pray for the future and pray that He might work in us even more. I believe in prayer. As I pray for you, will you pray for me?

(copied and adapted, TJK)

SHEPHERDS

Mike Felts
 Terry Joe Kee
 Dan Nichols
 Randy Oden

DEACONS

Scottie Blanchard
 Jerry Dodson
 Stacy Eddleman
 Jason Garland
 Scott Pratt
 Kevin Roush
 Mark Wooten

EVANGELIST

Terry Joe Kee

MISSIONARIES

Samrit Kammanee,
 Southeast Asia
 Micah Robertson, Montana

SERVICES

SUNDAY

Classes 9:00 a.m.
 Worship 10:00 a.m.
 5:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

What Must I Do To Be Saved?

Hear the Word of God
Romans 10:17

Believe the Word of God
John 8:24

Repent of your sins
Luke 13:3

Confess your faith in Jesus
 as the Son of God
Romans 10:9,10

Be Baptized for the
 remission of your sins
Acts 2:38

Live faithfully
Revelation 2:10

“For we are laborers together with God...”
 (I Cor. 3:9)

**Building For Thee
 In 2023**