

“Kindness” (Proverbs 19:22; 31:26)

19:22 What is desired in a man is kindness & a poor man is better than a liar

31:26 She opens her mouth with wisdom, & on her tongue is the law of kindness

#1. Faithfulness #2. Integrity #3. Diligence

I. How Do We Define “Kindness”?

Oxford: *Loving Kindness arising from love; tenderness compassion*

Tyndale Bible: *way a person speaks & acts,; more volitional than emotional*

A. Old Testament pictures:

1. Joseph’s interpretation of the butler’s dream (Gen 4: 40)
2. Rahab requests kindness from Israel’s spies (Josh 2:11-14)
3. Saul, David, and Jonathan (1 Sam 15:6; 20:14-15; 2 Sam 2:5; 9:1-17)

B. In the Old Testament: worst ingratitude to return evil for kindness

1. Abraham and Abimelech (Gen 21:22-24)
2. Abner’s kindness spurned by Ishbosheth (2 Sam 3:8)
3. Haman’s insult of David’s servant resulted in war (2 Sam 10)

II. How Does God’s Kindness Deliver Me from an Unkind Heart?

- Neh 9:16-17 “God’s *steadfast love (hesed)* to Israel in her unfaithfulness”
- Titus 2:3-8 “Kindness & love of God our Savior toward man appeared”

III. How Does God’s Kindness to Me Cause Me to Be Kind Others?

- 2 Cor 5:17; Rom 8:12-14; Gal 5:22-23; Matt 5:44-45; Col 3:12-14
- Proverbs 31:26 compared with 2 Timothy 2:13