The Most Valuable Gift of Kindness

Kindness is a simple yet complex term that describes thoughtful and considerate deeds. It's all too easy to be self-centered and take generosity for granted. You don't understand how much compassion has been offered to you until others treat you the same way you treat them. Kindness is immeasurable. It doesn't matter if it's a tiny act like a smile as you pass someone by or a large gesture like giving someone a bunch of flowers to brighten their day. Generosity isn't a hereditary feature contained in DNA, nor is it a characteristic that only certain people possess; everyone has the potential to be kind, regardless of their origin, sex, religion, or nationality. Goodness isn't confined to a single person.

There are many wonderful people who exhibit exemplary acts of kindness, but the ultimate example of kindness is God's love for us in sending his one and only son to die on the cross for our sins. This is, without a doubt, the greatest act of selflessness anyone has ever experienced. We are very privileged to have a God who is so generous and flawless that he sacrificed his son, Jesus, to rescue us. We are granted a second opportunity because of God's loving sacrifice, which redeemed us from our sins and mistakes. God didn't have to sacrifice his son to rescue us, but he did because he loves us so much. Through Jesus Christ, we are able to confess our wrongdoings and seek forgiveness and direction from him. There are numerous terms that may be used to define Jesus, and one of them is "kind." All of our deeds of kindness and compassion are a result of God's kindness.

Every decision we make throughout the day has an impact. Behind the scenes, everyone has their own difficulties and tribulations. Choosing to be a kind, courteous, and Godly person entails treating everyone well, including our enemies. Ephesians 4:32 is one of my favorite scriptures. "Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ
forgave you” (Ephesians 4:32). Although it is only two sentences long, the significance is profound. This commandment is similar to Confucius’s Golden Rule. Confucius established ethical, moral, and social norms in China in the early sixth century, which contributed to mold the country. "The Golden Rule" is one of his well-known teachings that has spread across the world today. Everyone should be treated equally according to The Golden Rule. The Golden Rule and Ephesians 4:32 have a similar meaning. Even though it's difficult to rise above those who harm us, we should choose to rise every time. If you descend low enough to their level, you are just as much in the wrong as they are. Every time, kindness triumphs over hatred. You are not permitted to treat someone brutally just because you disagree with them. Because it is what God intended when he created us, everyone should offer and receive kindness and love.

Despite the fact God's judgment is the only one that matters, many choose to focus on the views of others. We now put other people's feelings and thoughts ahead of our own. Proverbs 16:23-24 states, “From a wise mind comes wise speech; the words of the wise are persuasive. Kind words are like honey, sweet to the soul and healthy for the body.” We grow bitter if we choose to spew harsh remarks and cruel statements at one another. Kindness, as the Bible says, is sweet and pure like honey. Luke 6:35 is another passage that serves to express God's vision for his people. "But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great" (Luke 6:35). We should be good people simply because it is the right thing to do, not because we expect a reward. Something more valuable than a silly reward is the joy of improving someone's day because of your good deed. God wanted his people to spread his love and generosity to everyone and not gate keep it to only themselves.

Generosity may be demonstrated in a variety of ways, such as holding a door open for someone or smiling at a peer. Jesus has demonstrated an incredible amount of love. He hears our
pleas for wisdom when we need it and forgives us even when we don't deserve it. Though Jesus communicates with us in a variety of ways, the most important interaction he has gifted us with is his unconditional love. Another one of my favorite Bible verses is Romans 12:10, "Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor" (Romans 12:10). Instead of trying to compete with one another through mean acts, we should challenge and promote kindness.

Finally, God sending his own son to die on the cross for our sins is the greatest act of love ever given. If we choose to use it, kindness may be found inside everyone. As the Bible teaches, we must treat everyone, including our adversaries, with the same kindness and love that Jesus shows us. Kindness does not have to be manifested in grand gestures, it can be as simple as a wave of the hand. Whether you're in a terrible mood or the world seems to be collapsing around you, everyone has their own difficulties, and how you choose to respond affects not only you, but everyone else as well. Above all, it is simpler to love one another than to be unkind to one another. Hatred will never be able to overpower love.