



#9

Theme: Kindness and Love

Scripture: Luke 10:27) NIV

Jesus answered: *“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind; and, love your neighbor as yourself.”*

A Thought:

The other day I was entering a local shopping center and as I approached the entrance a young man held the door for me. I crossed his path and thanked him....he reciprocated with a nod and smile. Courtesy and politeness in tandem can go along way. Perhaps I am making a big thing out of this “courtesy” movement I have been experiencing lately. On a personal level - I always open doors for folks. I feel good doing it. I think I would do it even if I were not a believer. Although since I accepted Jesus as my Lord and Savior I am more conscience of my attitude and behavior. My son was once a missionary In Quito, Ecuador and on one of his vacations he preached at our home church. He related a story of his congregation’s outreach activity at a local city park. They handed out food and water to folks and entertained the children with puppet shows and alike. Hours later a church member approached my son and asked him when he was going to preach....without any hesitation he responded with a quick reply....”We just did.” Important note to bear in mind...God wants us as believers to show His love and it is not always with words.

Now....what are your thoughts? Write them down.

Talk to yourself:

- Do you feel comfortable opening doors for strangers?
- Is it difficult for you to step outside your comfort zone?
- Attitude and behavior - ask the Lord where you stand?
- As a Christian are you aware on how you are perceived by others?
- On a personal level have you had a conversation with God on your behavior and attitude patterns?

Scriptures to read:

- Luke 10:25-37 (30-37) The Parable of the Good Samaritan
- Galatians 5:22-23; 1 Corinthians 13: 1-7; Romans 13:10; James 2:8

Quote:

Marian Wright Edelman:

“Being considerate of others will take your children further in life than any college degree.
(www.quote garden.com)

Bottom Line:

Mother Teresa once said, *“Many people mistake our work for our vocation. Our vocation is the love of Jesus.”* With this in mind she talked about a brother who was a member of her order. He complained to her about his superior whose rules he thought were interfering with his ministry that reached out to the leper community. He told her that he wanted to spend more time with the lepers. She listened to him and replied, *“Your vocation is not to work for lepers - your vocation is to belong to Jesus.”* A pithy response to be sure but a significant lesson on life and our daily behavior. Whatever we do for others....opening doors, distributing food to the needy and or providing love and care to the leper community we do it because of Jesus. What a noble cause when we serve the King of Kings.

NOW.....THAT’S THE BOTTOM LINE.

Spiritual Dabbler, Your bro, Ray

Please click: www.Missionebenezer.org/thebottomline#!the-bottom-line/cmx0

