

Kindness is about **empathy** and **understanding** and **compassion** and **graciousness**.

Kindness is a preference to **forgive**.

Acts 7:57-59

The Spirit leads us into the kind of life **Jesus** would live.

Acts 20:36-38

Paul's writings and life were filled with **forgiveness** and **mercy** and **compassion**.

VI. The sixth fruit is goodness.

Goodness is life lived in the simplicity of **truth**.

Memory Verse - Ephesians 4:25

"Put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor."

Acts 5:1-4

The #1 reason why people lie is to **avoid pain**.

The #2 reason is to try to **obtain** something we don't have coming to us.

Small Group Discussion Questions:

1) Share any critical times in your life this past week when the Spirit led you into the fruits of love or joy or peace.

2) Why is being patient so hard for people in our day?

3) Share a time when you have been tempted to give up doing good. What did you do?

4) Discuss how you are doing in not trying to manufacture these fruits on your own but rather staying connected to the vine - to Jesus and letting the Spirit produce the fruit.

5) Read Acts 20:36-38: How have you thought of Paul in the past? What do these verses say about Paul and kindness?

6) Discuss how the Holy Spirit uses the transforming of our minds by God's Word to produce His fruits.

7) Do you agree with the two reasons given for why we lie? A) to avoid pain and B) to obtain something we don't have coming to us.

8) How would our lives and the lives of those around us change if we *"Put off falsehood and spoke truthfully to our neighbor?"*



Redeeming Notes

Pastor Dave Glesne April 30, 2006

"Guidance at Critical Times" (Part II)

Acts 20:7-12

IV. The fourth fruit is patience.

Patience is the ability to **delay** gratification, to **endure pain**.

Memory Verse - Galatians 6:9

"Do not grow weary of doing good; you will reap a harvest if you don't give up."

The fruits describe the kind person **God** is.

Acts 18:9-11: Paul doesn't get **weary**.

Acts 23:10-11

Acts 20:7-12

The default mode of the human race - an **itch** for the **instant**.

V. The fifth fruit is kindness.

Kindness is not the **default mode** of the human race.

Memory Verse - Ephesians 4:32

"Be kind and compassionate, tenderhearted and forgiving."