

WEEK 5: TABITHA, KINDNESS

Peter sent them all out of the room; then he got down on his knees and prayed. Turning toward the dead woman, he said, "Tabitha, get up." She opened her eyes, and seeing Peter she sat up. (Acts 9:40)

Acts 9

Each of the Fruits of the Spirit require some kind of action on our part. The Holy Spirit plants the seeds in us, but it is our responsibility to continue to grow them and share the fruit. Kindness is no different. It requires action by *showing* the **love** of God to those around us.

Have you ever wanted to be kind to someone because **someone** was kind to you first? Kindness is contagious. Our kindness, which comes from God, is an outpouring of His love on those around us. When they see our kindness, it spurs them toward kindness and serves as an **example** of the love of Christ.

God grew Peter's **kindness** by allowing him to heal others on His behalf. Peter had the love of God in him and he showed this love by **healing** Tabitha (also called Dorcas) and bringing her back to life in God's name. Tabitha was a kind, gentle woman and Peter did a **great** kindness for Tabitha and her friends who had been heartbroken over her **passing**. His kindness in healing her was more than just a nice act. It was an example of the radical love of Christ. This is kindness: showing God's love to others.

When you are kind to someone, when you stop and talk to someone who is alone, when you go out of your way to help a friend, when you **give** food to a homeless person or when you **pray** over someone in pain, you are showing them Christ through your kindness. This is one of the most important things we can do as **believers**, as kindness may bring someone to Christ when they **feel** His love for them through your action.

Questions to think about:

1. Who is someone in your life you can show kindness to?
2. What is something you can do for them?
3. Are your daily actions a testimony to the love of Christ?