



## *The Transforming Power of Kindness*

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I pray and hope that not only does this encourage you to become more hungry for Jesus, but that the Father, even as you read this, will speak to you revelation that goes beyond what is written here.

I believe with all my heart that one of the deepest desires that the Father has burning in Him is to make us just like His Son Jesus. He desires for us to fully imitate Him in authority, in power, and last but possibly the most important, His holy character. We really spend too much time praying for a revival instead of obeying what He said and being a revival. He has fully equipped us with everything we need for life and godliness. I believe it is time we have an awakening, and wake up to who we really are. He neither sleeps nor slumbers, so I would imagine the reason an awakening isn't happening is because the church is not doing its mandated job: to preach the gospel, heal the sick, cast out demons, free the captives and etc. (Is 61).

Here is how much the Father wants to make you like Jesus. You know that feeling that rushes all over your body when you become aware of His presence in the room? (*I don't want to say entering, because He is always with us and we often sing or pray as if He is far away and we have to convince Him to come. He doesn't "enter the room". Your senses just become aware of the person in you.*) I'd like to suggest that He wants to make you so much like His Son, that other people feel that feeling the moment you walk into a room because you emanate His glory that much because of your lifestyle. The only way this happens is the less pull this world has on

you, the more His world will. There is no grey in the spiritual world. You were called out of darkness into His marvelous light. NOT His marvelous grey. You can't help living in Babylon but you can help Babylon from living in you.

Of all the amazing personality traits of Christ, there is actually one I specifically want to address right now. It is a power that transforms a heart, a mind, a region, a nation, and eventually the world. This power is known as "kindness" (goodness in some translations. Same meaning though.) I was reading proverbs one day and I came across the expression, "On her mouth is the law of kindness." This is Solomon talking about an admirable woman, but I believe much of this parallels not all but much of what Jesus looks for His bride. I saw the term law of kindness and thought; well I see why Jesus wants His bride to have kindness but how is it a law? The reason that is, is because like the law kindness carries a great weight of authority. The reason I say that is because kindness has such great power and authority that it has the power to transform a mind and heart; because it is the kindness of the Lord that leads to repentance. (Rom 2:4).

Repentance is a change in the way you think and kindness actually has the ability to change your perspective on who God is, and who you are in relation to Him. We can see an example of this in Psalm 103:4. David says "Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with loving KINDNESS and tender mercies." Kindness is used here to demonstrate redemption and us being made royalty. It is the kindness of God that redeems us, because Jesus was crowned with thorns so we could be crowned with kindness. This is what

makes us kings before our God, (rev. 5:10) and this is what creates an identity of royalty in us; so we can release the Royal One out of us to a dying world.

There is another amazing thing that kindness leads to. I was reading the story of the woman with the issue of blood in Mark 5:25-34 one day, and something stood out to me. Something caused the Lord to say the following statement to me, which I found very interesting and profound. He said, "Aaron, My kindness is.... what strikes terror into the heart of a man." I noticed that in verse 33 it says that when the woman realized what was done IN HER, she was fearing and trembling and came down before Jesus and told Him it was her. Now in those days, if a woman touched a rabbi like that she could be stoned to death. So it would have been reasonable to be afraid if someone caught her doing it. But no one knew it was her. Jesus probably did, but He asked anyway indicating that if He did, He wasn't planning on exposing her. So what caused such terror to come upon her? She could have just crept away healed and not get stoned. Why would she confess? The reason is because kindness causes terror. It does so by demonstrating who God really is. She went to many doctors for help, and Jesus was her last resort. (Often like for some believers, that prayer is their last option instead of first.) When she realized the sickness she was plagued with for 12 years was gone, *THEN* she became fully aware of who this man really was that was standing in front of her. It is God's kindness that leads to the fear of the Lord and causes our knees to bow to the supremacy of Jesus and lay at His feet so that kindness can take its course in us and transform the way we think and function.

So how is this used for us to influence others you may ask? Well, we are called to be imitators of Christ in every way. Kindness is the power we use to imitate Jesus in trading beauty for ashes (Isa. 61). So what does that look like? We often in church just repeat nice little church phrases and lingo and we have no clue what we are really saying. I'm not confessing to fully understand this, but I will share what the Lord has shared with me so far. In The midst of ashes, (which can be anything from internal issues like depression, doubt, and etc, to external ones like sickness or poverty) Jesus trades beauty. Which means He becomes the solution to the problem. That is what we are called to be, answered prayers and solutions to the ashes in people's lives. We were anointed to lay down our lives for people to see Jesus for who He really is. We were not anointed to just point out how full of sin the world is. We act arrogant forgetting we were there once, while the world goes to hell.

Here is a great example of trading beauty for ashes. Remember in John 20, when Jesus rises from the dead and the disciples see Him but Thomas doubts? This would have been when most Christians would be like "I told you so!...DOUBTING THOMAS..."(which I hate hearing Christians say that. He has one recorded moment when he doubts and he gets tagged with that name forever. We do stupid stuff all the time and we don't get a title. Maybe we should forget his mistake like Jesus did when He threw it into the sea of forgetfulness.) But Jesus treated him so amazingly. He showed him the holes in His hands and side and let him feel for himself. He responded to him with meekness and kindness and Thomas was quick to change and later die for His Gospel. Maybe we should cut Thomas a break.

Kindness is just one of the many attributes of Christ we are called to walk in to change the world. I got this all from praying that the Lord would deepen my understanding of the authoritative power of kindness. I pray that this encouraged your heart to burn for Jesus, because that is really what the end result of all ministry should look to do in people. I would like to end with this thought. In John, he says that I suppose if everything Jesus did was written down, the world wouldn't be able to hold all the books. When I read that one night my heart burned with the thought of reading encyclopedia sized volumes of books that are just about Jesus. ( I even weep at the thought of how wonderful that would be even now.) However, perhaps the reason they were not written is because it is our mandate to fill this world with the testimonies of the power and goodness of Jesus. That is our destiny that this world would not be able to contain all the stories we have of Jesus in us, trading beauty for ashes, with the power of kindness...

Be Blessed Richly In Christ.

*Aaron J Livecchi*

Aaron@weseejesusministries.com