

## INTRO

- Winter is just around the corner. What is your favourite hot beverage? Maybe one that's a special treat.

*coun·ter·cul·ture (noun): a way of life, values and attitudes that diverge from the prevailing social norm.*

In our Fall teaching series, we look at the way of life Jesus calls us into and how to cultivate it, the result of which bears the fruit of God's transforming power at work in us.

## READ

Galatians 5:22-23

## REFLECT &amp; RESPOND

Indifference: lack of interest, concern, or sympathy

*Qu: Do you ever feel indifferent (lack of care, concern, sympathy) to the pain and suffering of those around you, of the suffering in other parts of the world? Why do you think that might be?*

**Consider the Kindness of God**

But when the goodness and loving **kindness** of God our **Saviour** appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy,

—*his goodness — his kindness — his mercy*

by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Saviour, so that being **justified** by his grace we might become heirs according to the **hope** of eternal life. — Titus 3:4-7

*Qu: Did you grow up in a religious family? Did you believe that your actions (good deeds or religious practices) drew God to you or that his kindness drew you to God?*

**Our Call to Kindness**

So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, **put on a heart** of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. — Colossians 3:12 NASB

Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you. — Ephesians 4:32

*Qu: If it is God's kindness that draws us to him, how might our kindness point others to Jesus? Qu: Was there someone in your life whose kindness towards you made you stop and consider the reality of God?*

**Let's Work out its Implications**

"Since this is the kind of life we have chosen, the life of the Spirit, let us make sure that we do not just **hold it as an idea in our heads or a sentiment in our hearts**, but work out its implications in every detail of our lives." — Galatians 5:25 The Message

*Qu: How can we move the Fruit of the Spirit and specifically Kindness from being an idea in our head or a sentiment in our heart to becoming an expression of the love of God to others? Be specific. Is there something you know you should do?*

Remember what Jesus said, "Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."

## PRAY

- Read Matthew 25:35-40
- "Truly, I say to you, as you did it **to one of the least of these** my brothers, you did it to me."
- pray for an opportunity this week to...