

# king's chapel

## *Community Group Discussion Guide*

Week of July 16, 2017

**This Week's Focus:** God showed the riches of his love and kindness toward us by cancelling the infinite debt of our sin by his atoning death on the cross.

**This Week's Text:** Galatians 5:22-23; Titus 3:3-7; Ephesians 2:1-7, 4:31-32

"This [Fruit of the Spirit] is not just an intellectual exercise. We must worship Christ, with the help of the Holy Spirit, adoring Him until our hearts find Him more beautiful than the object we felt we had to have. As we do that, we will put to death our old *sarx* nature [fleshly desires], clearing room for the fruit of the Spirit to grow; and we will find that fruit growing, changing us more and more into the people we long to be, and God desires us to be." Dr. Timothy Keller

### **Observations and Questions for Discussion:**

- What is the Fruit of the Spirit? How do we grow in the Fruit of the Spirit and overcome our fleshly desires? Discuss the difference between a morally restrained heart relying on the law and a supernaturally renewed heart resting in the gospel.
- What is kindness? Are humans naturally capable of exhibiting acts of kindness? How is biblical kindness different than the world's definition of kindness? Does motivation matter?
- What does it mean that kindness is part of God's nature? What are some examples in Scripture of God's kindness? Share some ways you have experienced God's kindness firsthand or through the kindness of others.
- Discuss how the gospel is the greatest act of kindness ever expressed.
- Read Luke 6:32-35 and Ephesians 4:31-32. Are there people in your life that you struggle to show kindness? How do we overcome the selfish desires of the flesh and become radically "others-focused" – that is, compassionate, loving, and kind toward others, especially those who are brash, unlovable, or who simply refuse our kindness (Ephesians 2:1-7, Titus 3:3-5)? What are some practical ways we can show kindness to others who are different than us?
- What is the purpose behind our love and kindness toward others? How do we cultivate genuine kindness in our hearts? How do we know we are growing in kindness?
- Discuss how this week's passage encourages you to declare and demonstrate the gospel in your community and spheres of influence.