

RECAP FROM LAST MEETING (2-3 min)

Spend a few minutes catching everyone up to speed from last week.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (1-2 min)**PERSONAL FAITH STORY (3 min)**

Ask someone to share a brief faith story about how they see God working in their life this week.

PRAYER (8-10 min)

Split into groups of two or three.

LESSON (30 min)

Spend five minutes on these two questions:

1. In what ways has God been kind to you? (Ephesians 2:7)
2. Several times Paul connects “patience and kindness” as qualities of God. How do they relate to each other? (Colossians 3:12-13)

Read 1 Corinthians 13:1-7. In the first three verses the word love is mentioned three times, in the context of great spiritual actions. Then Paul begins to paint a picture of love’s qualities, and one of the first things he talks about is love is kind. Kindness is also noted as part of the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23). Love is also in the list, revealing the close connection between love and kindness. Living a life of love marked by kindness is one aspect of living in a way that pleases God.

God is not likely to care as much about our earthly contributions to balance sheets and profit and loss statements, as he is about how we cared for the people He brought to us. Bill Walsh, the Hall of Fame football coach, said that “People treated kindly also do a better job. When you concentrate on servicing your people by instructing and encouraging their individual best performances as contributing team members, they will naturally produce the best overall outcome for the enterprise they represent.” To be appropriately kind to your coworkers, you need to get to know them as workplace family. Getting to know them entails personality assessment tools as well as face-to-face dialogue about their passions, ambitions, strengths, and weaknesses.

GROUP DISCUSSION

- If God’s kindness and patience is intended to lead us to repentance (Romans 2:4), how could He use your kindness and patience in the lives of others in the context of the workplace?
- Do you feel that you have an in-depth understanding of those closest to you (including family)? Do you know what motivates and demotivates them? Discuss.
- Which of these people do you think needs better understanding?
- Consider taking a free online version of the Meyer-Briggs personal assessment test. How could this help you to be kind to others? How could this be helpful in understanding the personalities of others?

ACTION STEPS (4-5 min)

1. What steps can you take to help you better understand those who are different from you?
2. Optional: Take this free online personality test: <https://www.16personalities.com/free-personality-test>.

CLOSING PRAYER (5 min)