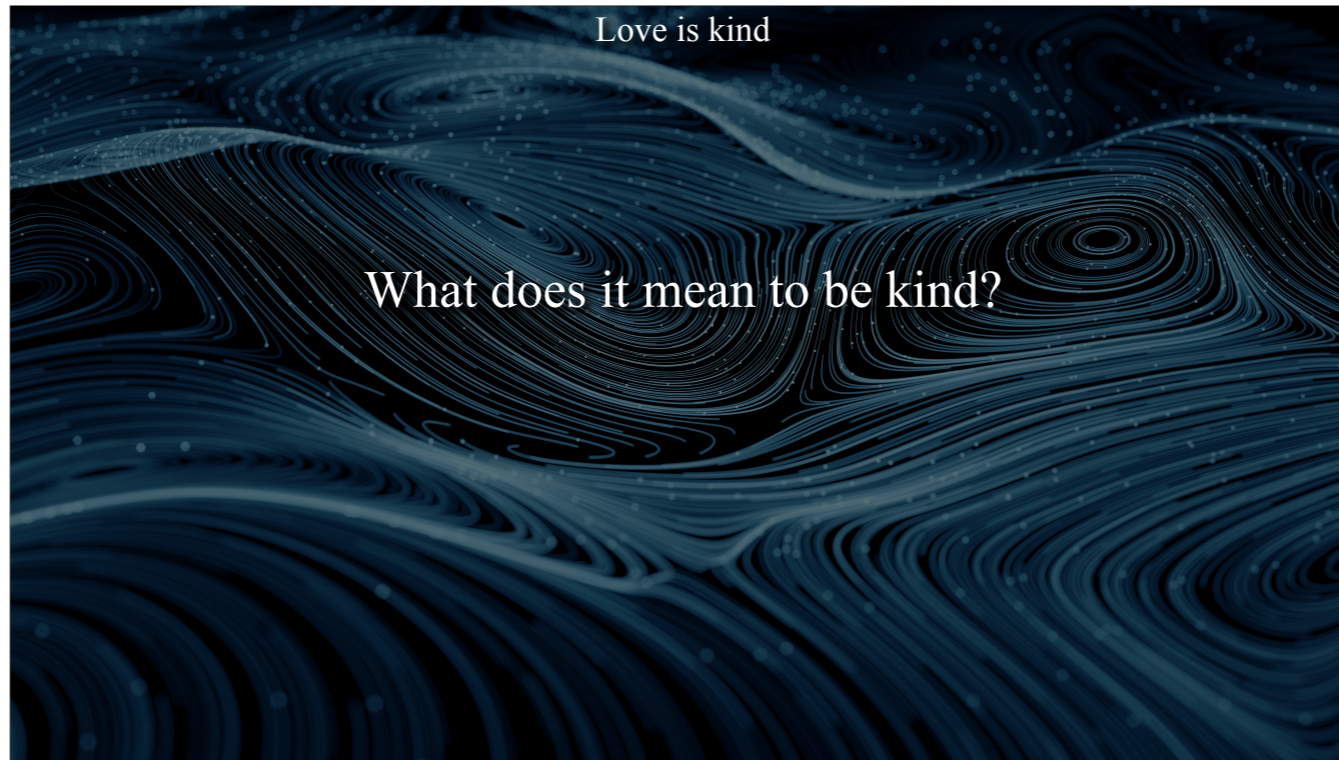




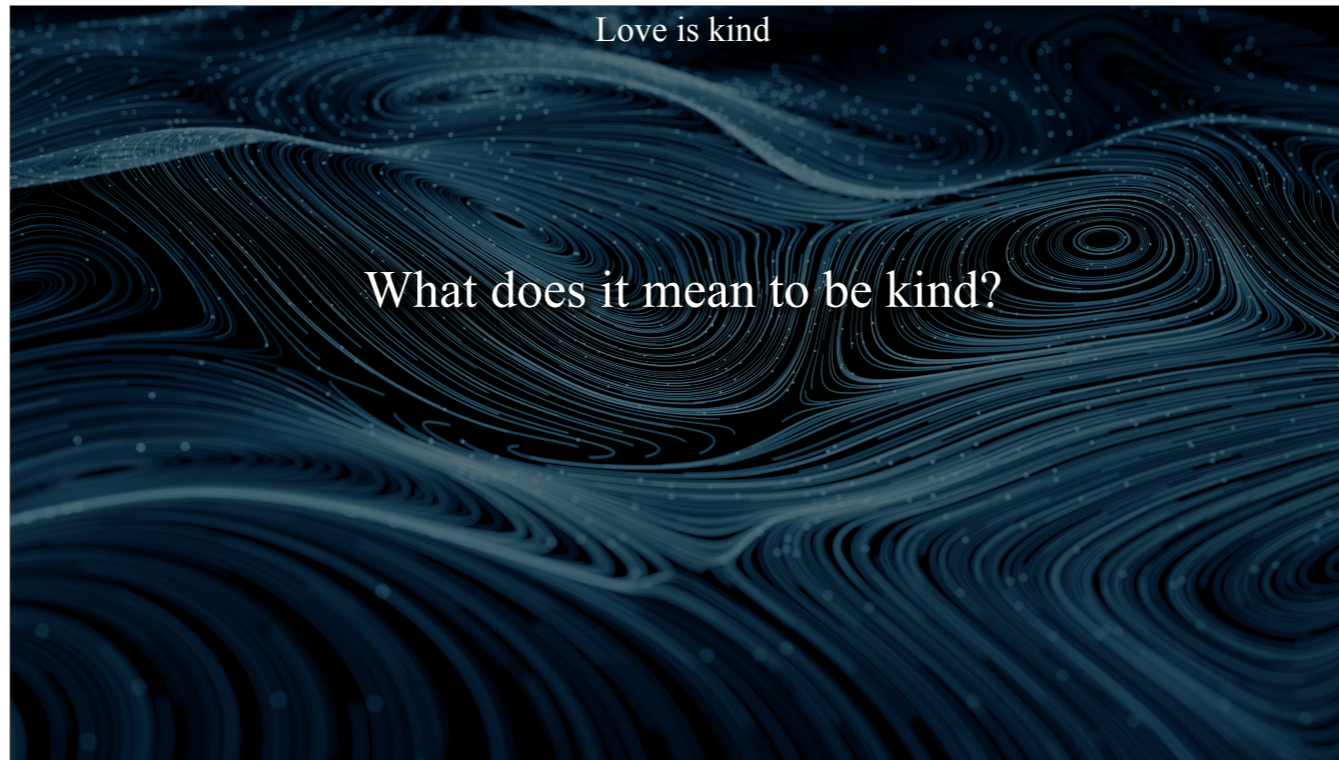
- Love is hard work
- These lessons are not presented from the advantage of one who is good at love.
- Rather one who is poor at love, who needs to get better.
- Understanding the words and teaching is one thing.
- This is my struggle to love.



- 1 Corinthians 13:4 Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant
- What does kind mean?



- Kind
 - Thayer: to show one's self mild
 - TDNT: manageable
 - mild, pleasant (as opposed to harsh, sharp, bitter)
 - In Rom. 2.4 Paul has to chreston as a noun to describe the divine kindness which allows space for repentance



- Vincent (from Romans 3:12)
 - wholesomeness
 - gentle, gracious, kindly
- Matthew 11:30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”
 - wholesome, serviceable, kindly
 - Jeremy Taylor: “Christ’s yoke is like feathers to a bird; not loads, but helps to motion.”



- Kindness!
- Titus 3:4-7:
 - But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared,
 - 5 he saved us,

Love is kind

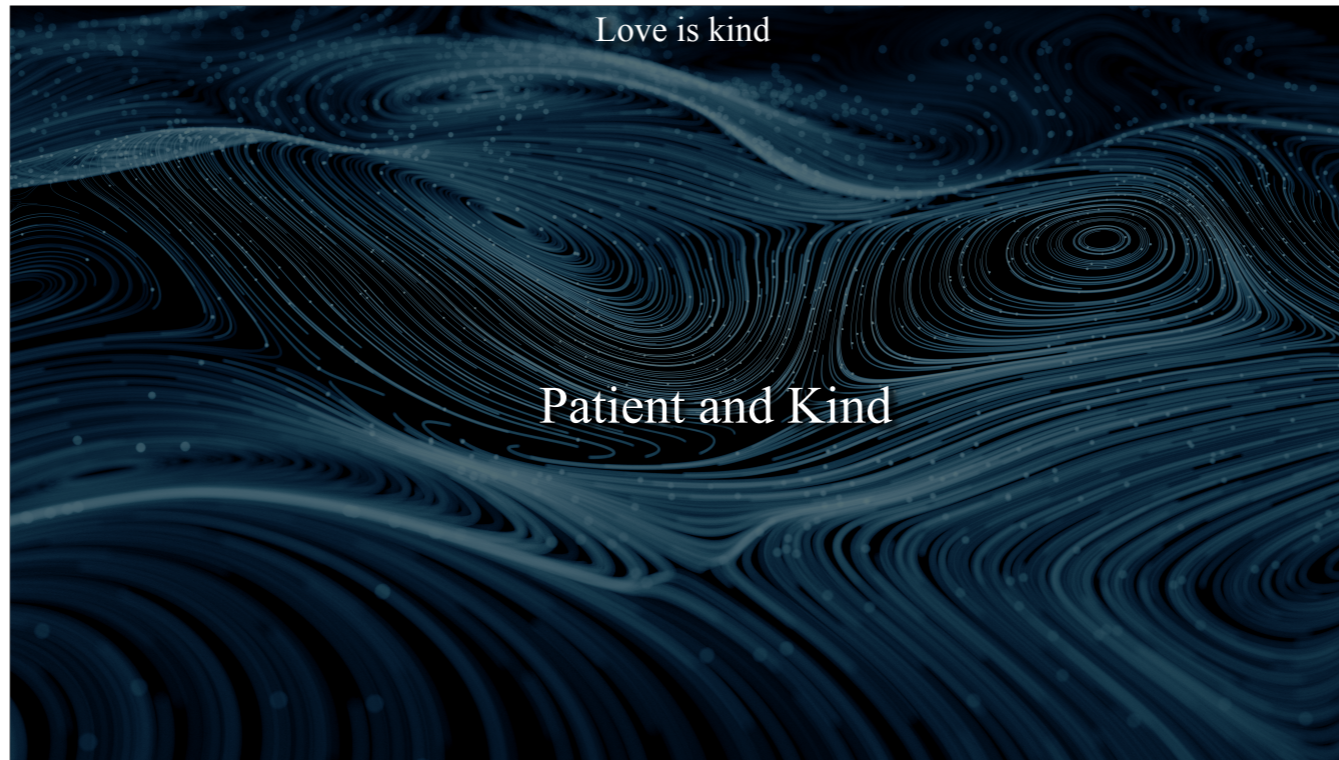
But when the goodness and loving kindness
of God our Savior appeared, he saved us

Titus 3:4-5

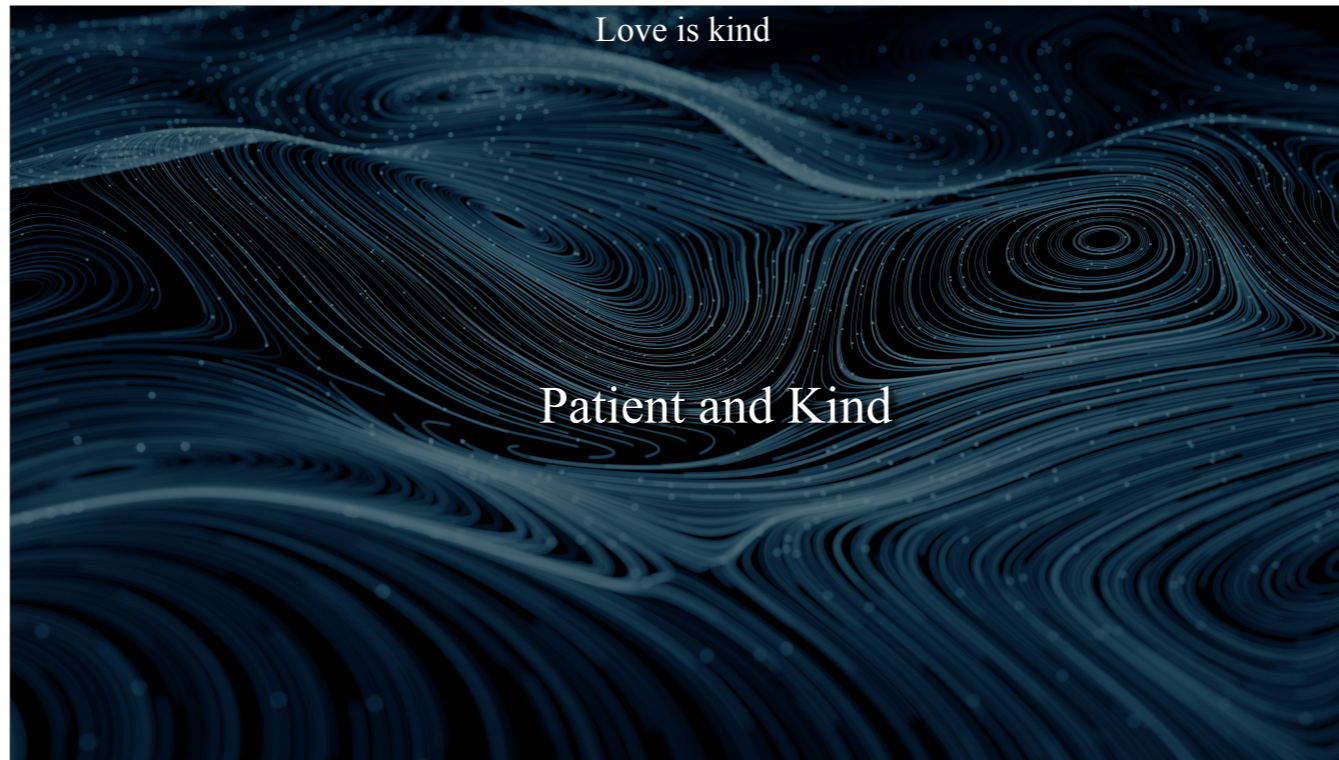
- not because of works done by us in righteousness,
 - but according to his own mercy,
- by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit,
- 6 whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior,
- 7 so that being justified by his grace
- we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.



- Kindness seen in that
 - He saves us
 - It's not because we deserved his kindness (righteousness)
 - His own mercy
 - Regeneration and Renewal of the Holy Spirit
 - poured on us richly!
 - Grace



- In some ways patience/longsuffering is a restraining from acting against another too impetuously
 - giving time and room for them;
 - but also providing room to consider how they can best be helped.



- And this is why, I think, kindness is linked with the patience.
- Being patient needs to be united with kindness
 - Because love is not just about refraining my anger,
 - but choosing to be kind even when it's difficult or undeserved.



- Leading to Repentance

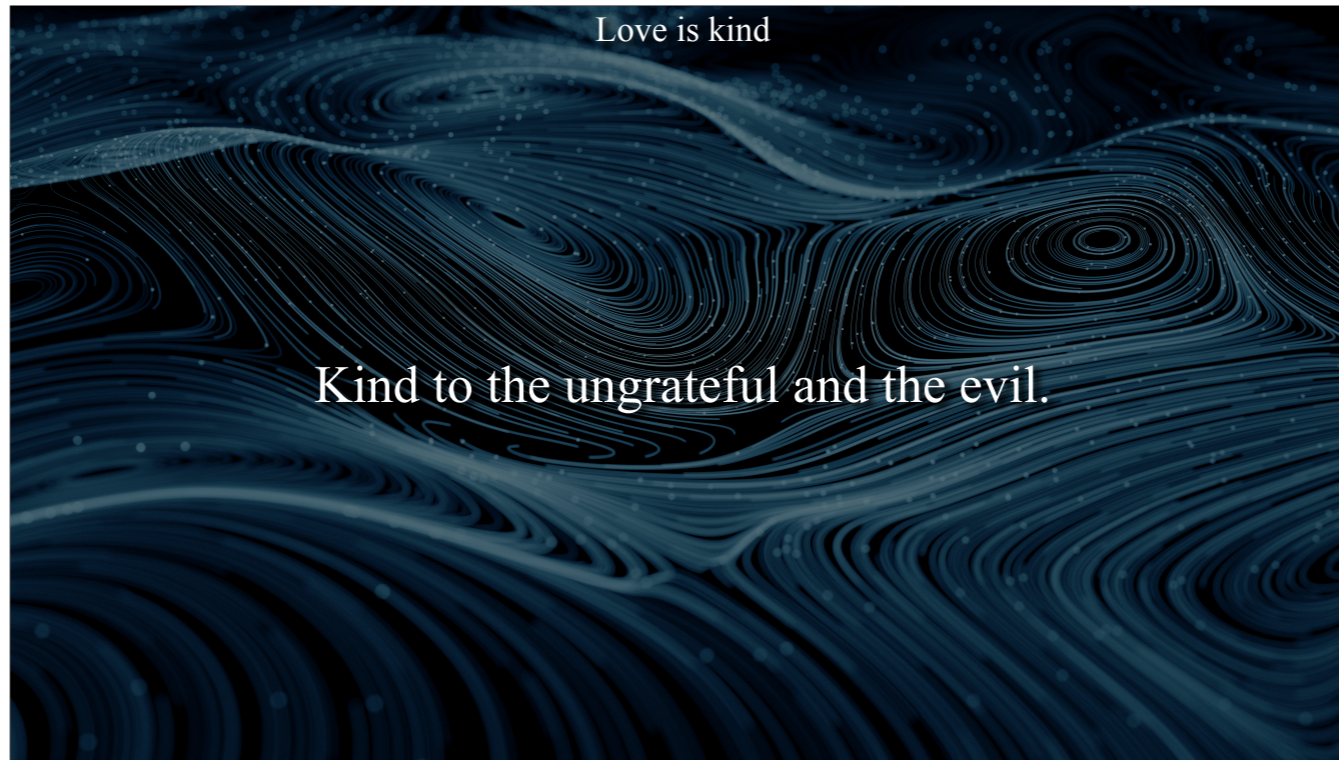
- Romans 2:4 Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?



- God's kindness leads to repentance
 - Too often our thought is that repentance is a result of being dogmatic and harsh; we need to be stern



- But God says
 - Repentance is the result of kindness.
 - (This is not saying that we excuse sin in any way!)
 - But if we want to bring people to God — Be kind.
 - If we want to bring people back to God — Be kind.
 - Because that is what our Father did for us.



- Luke 6:35 (ESV)

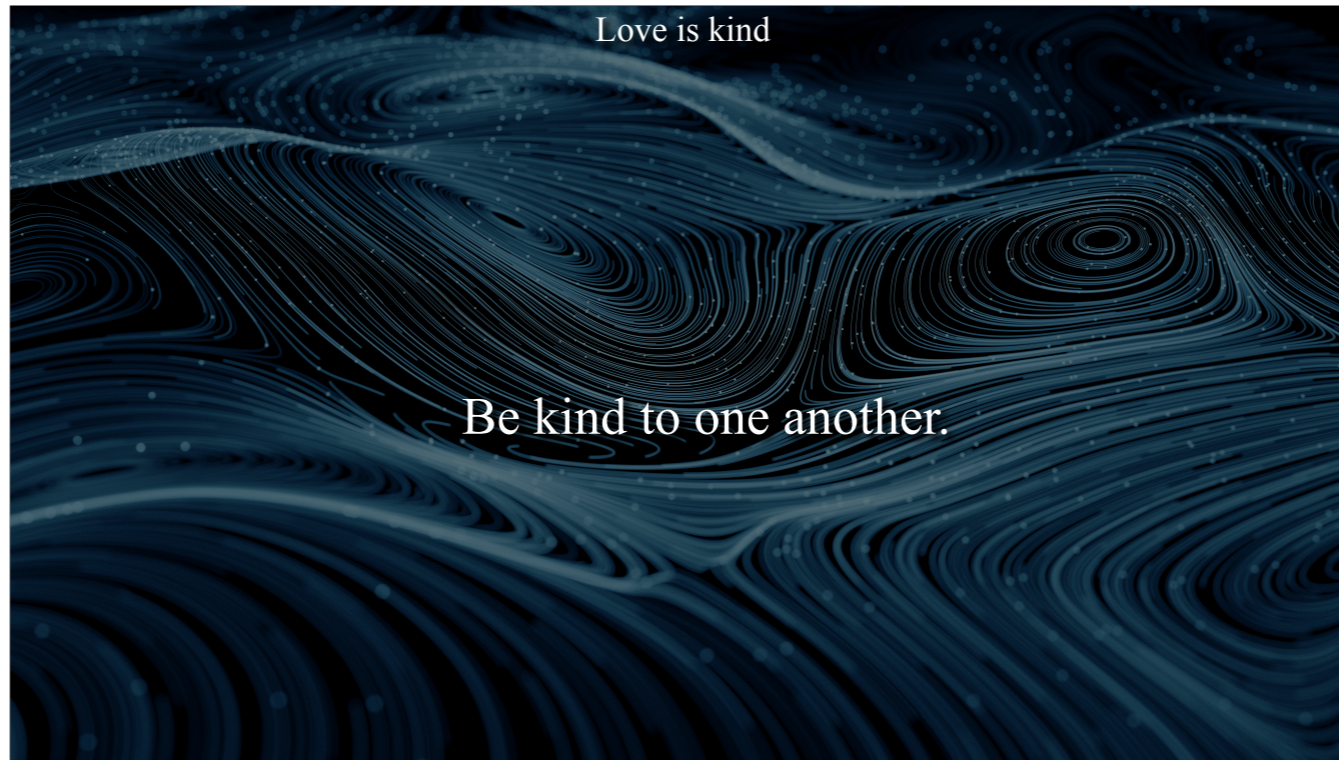
- But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil.



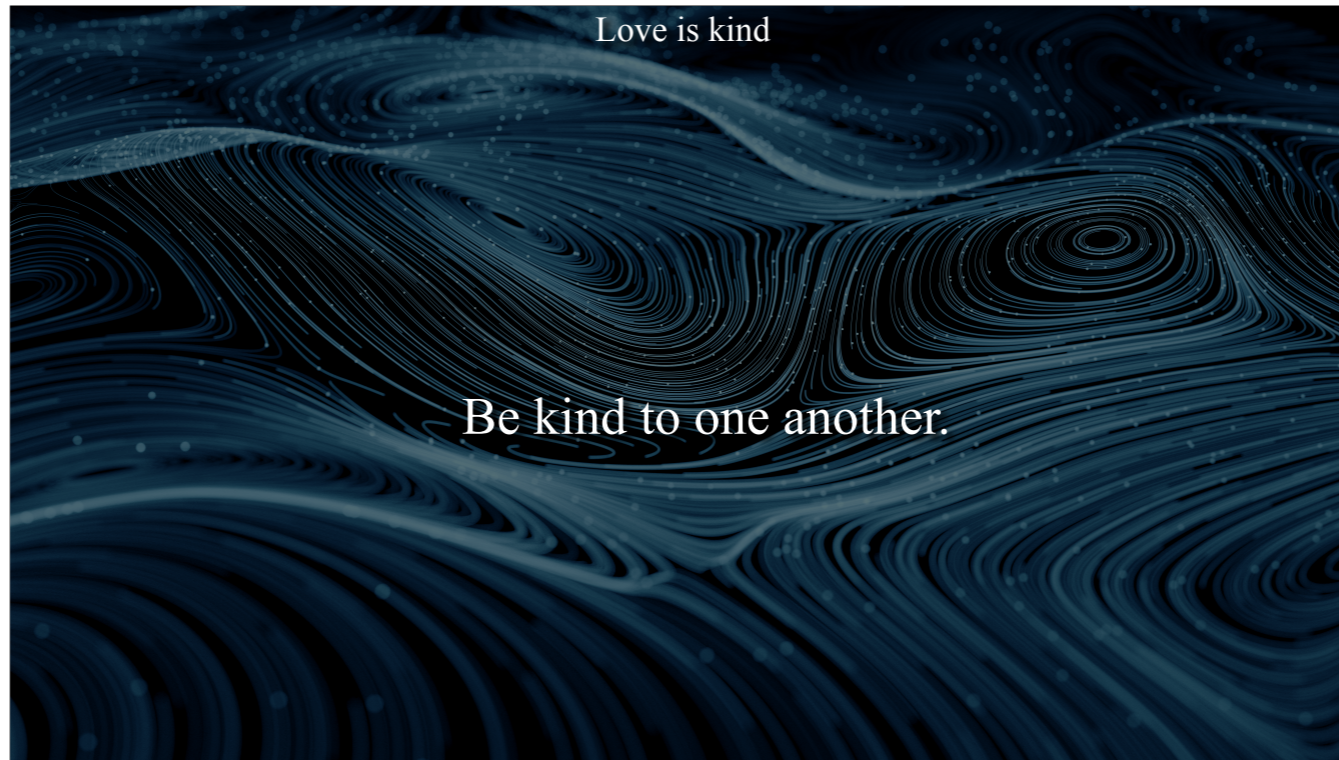
- Are you annoyed by people who don't express their thankfulness?
- Do you struggle with being good to people who are evil?
 - Yes. We do. It's really difficult.
- But God is kind to exactly these people.
 - And why?
 - It's meant to lead them to repentance!



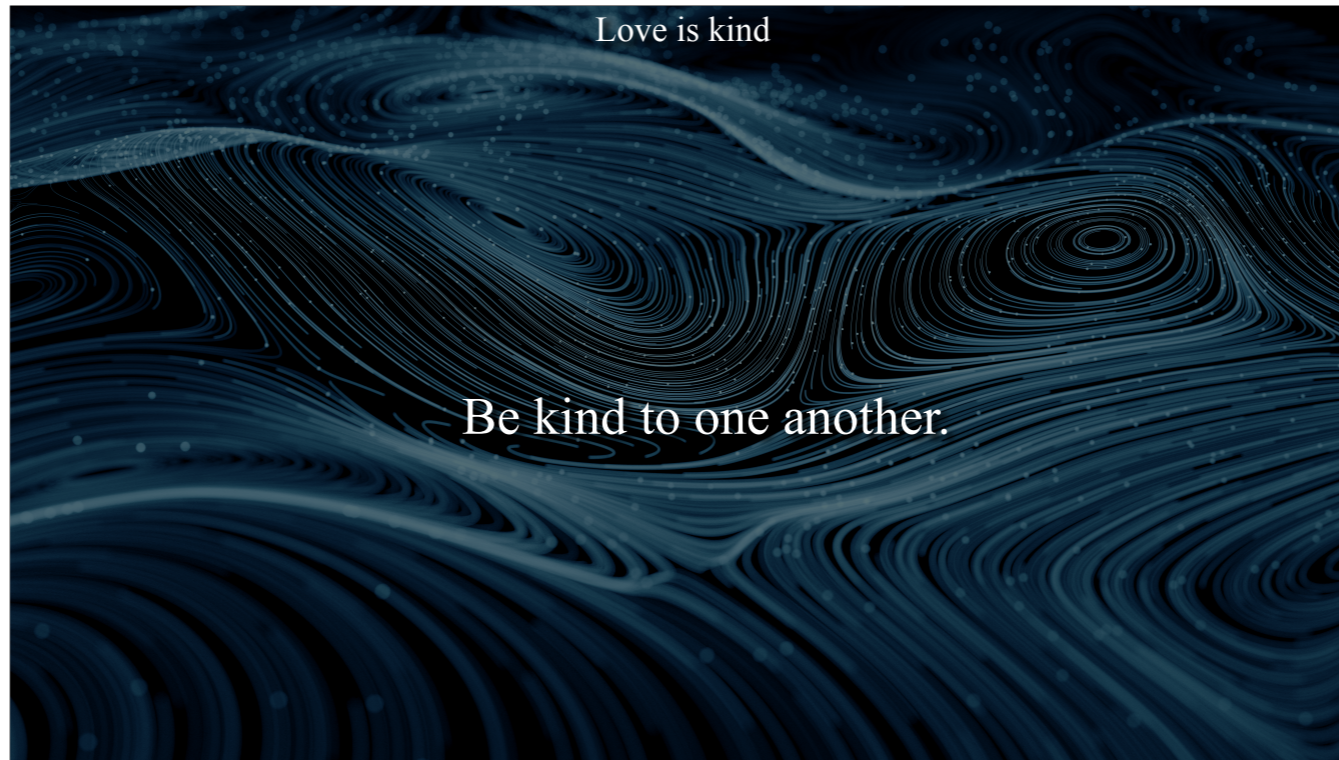
- Be Kind to one another
 - Ephesians 4:32 Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.
- This is clearly more than observing niceties.



- The Niceties ...
 - A cup of water
 - Matthew 10:42: And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward.”

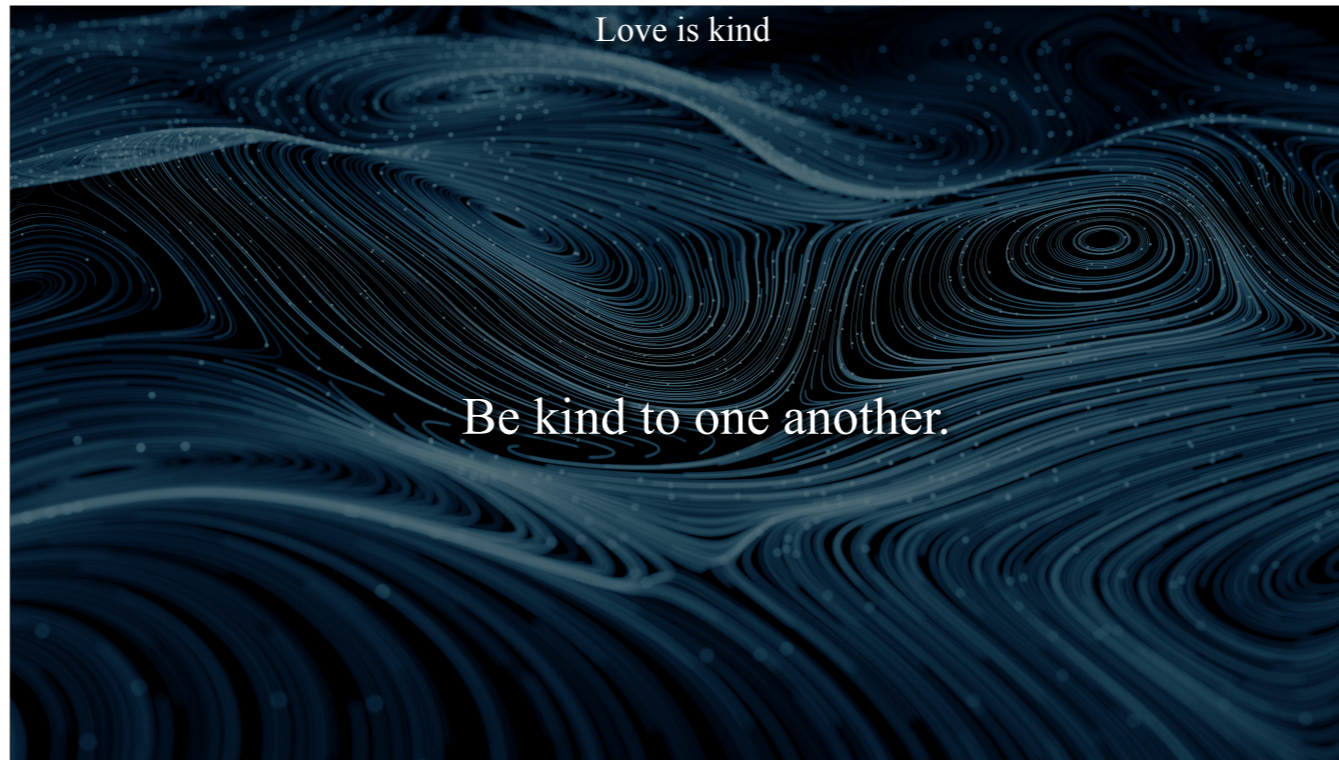


- Clothing, Visiting sick and in prison
 - Matthew 25:36: I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.'



- Healing and care

- Luke 10:33-35: But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion. 34 He went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he set him on his own animal and brought him to an inn and took care of him. 35 And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take care of him, and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.'



- Tunics and garments of Dorcas
 - Acts 9:39: So Peter rose and went with them. And when he arrived, they took him to the upper room. All the widows stood beside him weeping and showing tunics and other garments that Dorcas made while she was with them.



- This kindness recognizes that even though we are brethren, there are times when we wrong each other.
 - Kindness is that first step in the right direction that opens the door for others to repent.
 - And then we forgive.



- Kindness is vital not just for meeting physical needs.
 - It's particularly sad that we often have an easier time being kind in physical circumstances than we do when others are in spiritual crisis.



- Kindness in Corinth
- 1 Corinthians 6:1-8: A Grievance against another
 - Paul is incredulous that brother was suing brother and in civil courts, before those who are unrighteous.

Love is kind

Kindness in Corinth

To have lawsuits at all with one another is already a defeat for you. Why not rather suffer wrong? Why not rather be defrauded? But you yourselves wrong and defraud—even your own brothers!

1 Corinthians 6:7-8

- 1 Corinthians 6:7-8 (ESV)

- 7 To have lawsuits at all with one another is already a defeat for you. Why not rather suffer wrong? Why not rather be defrauded? 8 But you yourselves wrong and defraud—even your own brothers!

Love is kind

Kindness in Corinth

To have lawsuits at all with one another is already a defeat for you. Why not rather suffer wrong? Why not rather be defrauded? But you yourselves wrong and defraud—even your own brothers!

1 Corinthians 6:7-8

- Paul provides them with a better solution.
 - Don't sue them before unbelievers.
 - Don't even bring such matters before the church.

Love is kind

Kindness in Corinth

To have lawsuits at all with one another is already a defeat for you. Why not rather suffer wrong? Why not rather be defrauded? But you yourselves wrong and defraud—even your own brothers!

1 Corinthians 6:7-8

- Rather ...
 - suffer the wrong!
 - That's outrageous! How will they ever learn to do what is right?
 - That's not justice.
 - be defrauded! (Robbed!)
- Remember, it's God's Kindness that leads to Repentance!
 - Kindness helps people come back to what is right.

Love is kind

Kindness in Corinth

To have lawsuits at all with one another is already a defeat for you. Why not rather suffer wrong? Why not rather be defrauded? But you yourselves wrong and defraud—**even your own brothers!**

1 Corinthians 6:7-8

- But Paul goes further, asserting that those who have been wronged are also wronging and defrauding!
 - EVEN YOUR OWN BROTHERS
 - whatever this grievance is ... whether money or property
 - Paul indicates that our relationship with our brother is more important than these things

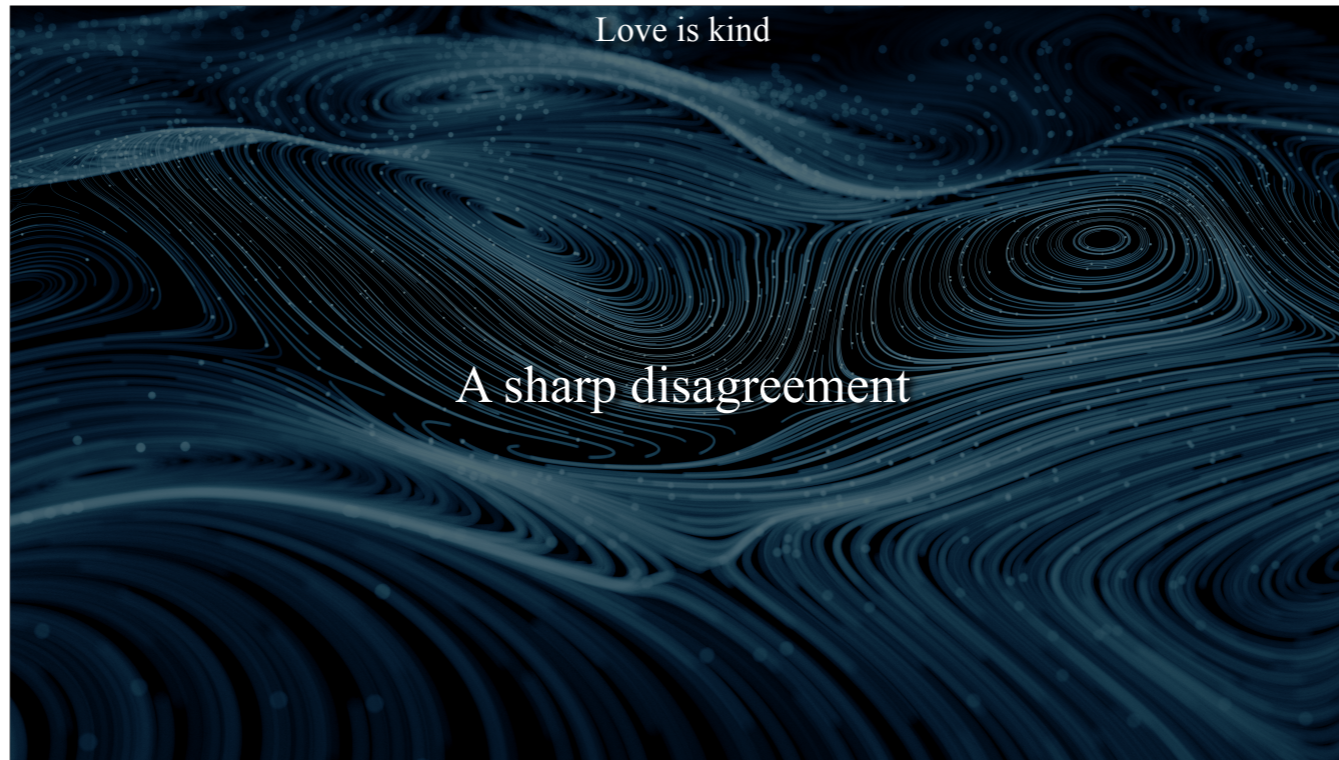
Love is kind

Kindness in Corinth

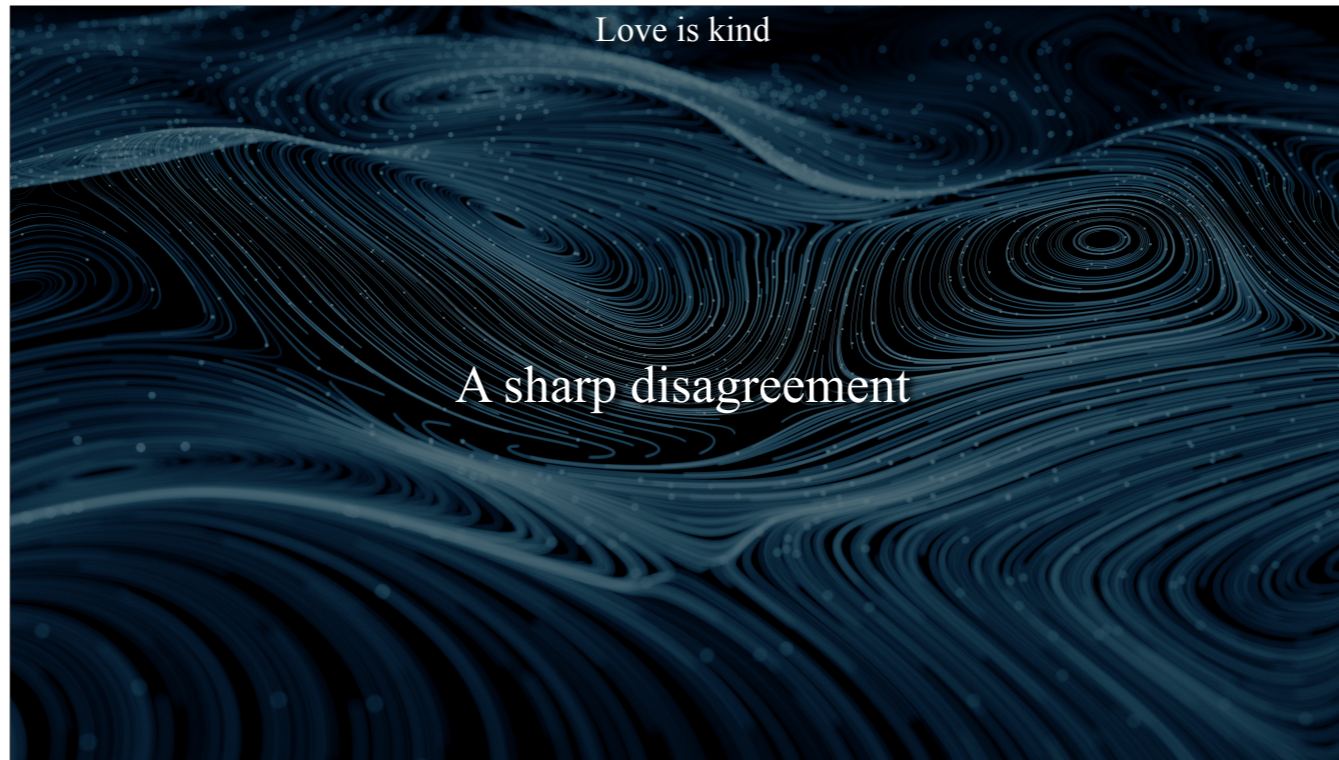
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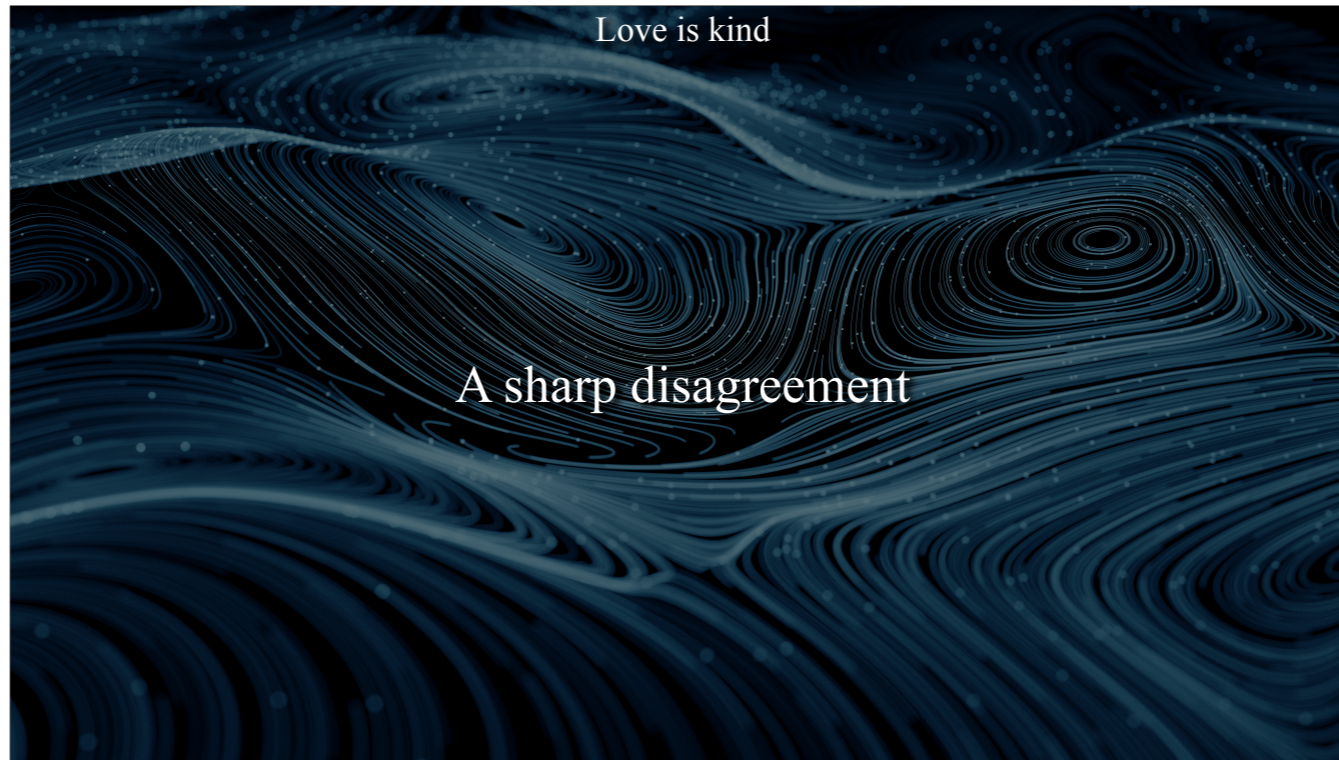
- How can I let go of these things (money, possessions) and focus on my brother?
 - Kindness -- that leads to repentance
 - Forgiveness



- Could Paul and Barnabas have avoided their sharp disagreement?
 - Barnabas wanted to take John Mark with them on their second journey.
 - Paul thought it best not to take someone who had withdrawn and not gone with them to the work.
 - Most of us can see both sides.
 - A second chance
 - An unnecessary burden



- Acts 15:39-40 And there arose a sharp disagreement, so that they separated from each other. Barnabas took Mark with him and sailed away to Cyprus, 40 but Paul chose Silas and departed, having been commended by the brothers to the grace of the Lord.



- What if there was kindness inserted into this situation?
 - Certainly for John Mark from Paul.
 - But in this case I'm suggesting that the kindness needed to be between Barnabas and Paul.
- Maybe they would have separated anyway?
- But maybe kindness would have been of great value?

We implore you
on behalf of Christ,
be reconciled to God.

2 Corinthians 5:20

Call to Action

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The Greatest of These

#05

Compiled and Presented by:
Dave Stewart
2026 March 22
www.1corinthians1614.com

Love Is Kind

1 Corinthians 13:4

Synopsis: Kindness leads to repentance. It's not just about being nice, it's about forgiveness and building relationships with each other.

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“Let all that you do be done with love.”