



The Radical Call of Kindness

Robi Damelin - The Parents Circle

“Therefore, as God’s chosen people,
holy and dearly loved,
clothe yourselves with compassion,
kindness, humility, gentleness and
patience...”

Colossians 3:12



College students from 59 countries rank kindness as the most important trait to have in their partner.

Kindness is Christianity's most distinctive and attractive characteristic.





True kindness is not usually spontaneous. Rather it is a practiced, counter-intuitive response to an outrage, rather than responding in kind.

Kindness to others begins with God's kindness towards us displayed through Christ.

While we are yet sinners, Christ died for us. Rom 5:8

How should Christian kindness look like in a harsh and divided world today?

“Judgmental, uninformed, fearful of diversity and scornful..”

The persecution of Christian will increase and become the norm *globally* as we steadily become a minority.

What would our response be?

Lebanese case studies: Samir Geagea, Shatila and Shabra massacres





Kim Chean, widow of Joseph Chean, to the driver who killed her husband:

“I shared that everyone makes mistakes and we all need Isa (Jesus) to forgive us. Therefore, I also forgive him. I told him I hope that he would learn from his mistake and live his life well, and that Isa (Jesus) loves him. I also spoke about how Joe would also forgive him despite what happened.”

“Bear with each other and *forgive one another* if any of you has a grievance against someone. *Forgive as the Lord forgave you.*”

Colossians 3:13



- **Unforgiveness** is a clenched fist before God - cannot receive in this position.
- *Leads to bitterness, anger, hatred — slave to the injustice and pain that others caused me.*
- **Compassion:** “tenderhearted” “healthy bowels”
- **Forgiveness** is admitting something wrong was done to us, but giving the burden of judgment to God and choosing mercy and love.

“And over all these virtues *put on love,*
which binds them all together
in perfect unity.”

Colossians 3:14

Project Green Pastures

To create a safe, beautiful and functional astro-turf soccer field at a Christian school that serves students from diverse and low-income backgrounds.



Discussion

1. Give yourself a “kindness” review in your current roles.
2. How can I better display Christ’s kindness outside the Christian circle?
3. Have I “responded in kind” to situations where I was wronged?
4. Are there areas of unresolved unforgiveness, bitterness and resentment in my life?

