

My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Like never before, the signs of the times are shouting to us that the return of our Precious Lord is upon us. As such, we are now living in the most dreadful and most exciting time. Like never before, we must be about The Lord's business.

A sad reality is that while the time for concluding our work is so short—so much of our work is undone! We *must* find a way to redeem the time! There is so much to be done!

Thank God for our Prophet, Ellen G. White, whose writings God is still using to assist us in the process of working smarter as we work harder! By following the method she has outlined in *Testimonies, Vol. 9, p. 189*, we can, through the Baptism Of The Holy Ghost upon us, see the time redeemed at a ratio of one hundred to one! She says:

“If we would humble ourselves before God, and be *kind* and *courteous* and *tenderhearted* and *pitiful*, THERE WOULD BE ONE HUNDRED CONVERSIONS TO THE TRUTH WHERE NOW THERE IS ONLY ONE.”

Beloved, that seems simple enough to me. The forceful challenge to you and me is to prove the truth of that statement (and others like it) through us during the time we have left. Imagine it—a company of ten growing to one thousand in short order without it (basically) costing a dime! The real investment is our time and dispositions fully dedicated to The Master. Let us implement this soul winning strategy year-around! I am already beginning to rejoice over the testimonies that will come. The process is outlined in the pages that follow.

Please consider these contents the beginning of a rich experience for you and your congregation. We are grateful for the research and ministry of Elder W. C. and the late Mrs. Lois Scales, who brought this material to our attention in this form.

God bless you and yours!

Sincerely,

J. Alfred Johnson II
Director

KINDNESS CRUSADE

“Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honor preferring one another.” Romans 12:10

“If we would humble ourselves before God, and be kind and courteous and tenderhearted and pitiful, there would be one hundred conversions to the truth where there is only one.” *9T 189*

What is the Kindness Crusade?

To be ‘kind’ means to be gentle, thoughtful, good-hearted and considerate in both our behavior and deeds. And ‘crusade’ means any vigorous or concerted movement for a cause. So in short, **Kindness Crusade** means an enthusiastic and deliberate effort to be kind to everyone we can whenever, wherever, and however we can!

What is the Purpose of the Kindness Crusade?

To Help Us to be Like Christ!

“Christ’s work is to be our example. Constantly He went about doing good. In the temple and the synagogues, in the streets of the cities, in the marketplace and the workshop, by the seaside and among the hills, He preached the gospel and healed the sick. His life was one of unselfish service, and it is to be our lesson book.” *9T 31*

To Help Us to Be Successful Missionaries!

“Many can be reached only through acts of disinterested kindness. . . . As they see evidences of our unselfish love, it will be easier for them to believe in the love of Christ. This love must be manifested by God’s workers. Love for God and for those for whom Christ has died will do a work that we can scarcely comprehend. Those who do not cherish and cultivate this love cannot be successful missionaries.” *6T 84*

To Help Us Win Souls!

“If we would humble ourselves before God, and be kind and courteous and tenderhearted and pitiful, there would be one hundred conversions to the truth where now there is only one.” *9T 189*

To Help Us to Be More Attractive to Others!

“Kindness and gentleness leave their impress upon the face, and the practiced eye sees no deception, detects no pomposity of manner.” *5T 402*

Who is to Take Part in the Kindness Crusade?

Everyone!

“Today we need men (and women) . . . who do not seek to make a pretentious show, but who walk humbly with God, patient, kind, obliging, courteous men, who understand that the science of prayer is to exercise faith and show works that will tell to the glory of God and the good of His people.” *SD 207*

To Whom Should We Direct the Kindness Crusade?

Friends, Relatives, Family Members, Neighbors, Acquaintances, Fellow Workers, and Anyone in Need.

“The first works of the church were seen when believers sought out friends, relatives and acquaintances, and with hearts overflowing with love, told the story of what Jesus was to them and what they were to Jesus.” *TM 168*

What Word of Caution Should We Keep in Mind When Performing Deeds of Kindness?

“My brethren and sisters, go to your neighbors one by one, and come close to them till their hearts are warmed by our unselfish interest and love. Visit those who live near you, and by sympathy and kindness seek to reach their hearts. Be sure to work in a way that will remove prejudice instead of creating it. And remember that those who know the truth for this time, and yet confine their efforts to their own churches, refusing to work for their unconverted neighbors, will be called to account for unfulfilled duties.” *RH 3/13/1888; 9T 34*

What Are Some Scripture Reference to Study on the Subject of Kindness?

Deuteronomy 10:19	John 15:12	I Thessalonians 4:9
Proverbs 10:12	Romans 12:10	I Thessalonians 3:12
Matthew 7:12	I Corinthians 13	I Peter 1:5-7, 22
Matthew 22:39	Ephesians 4:32	I Peter 4:8, 9
Matthew 25:41, 45	Colossians 3:12	John 1335

What Are a Few Terms to Know Concerning the Kindness Crusade?

1. **Kindness Bank:** Though no one may know, or though you may receive no recognition here, the term Kindness Bank symbolizes the fact that you are investing in the heavenly Bank of Kindness where every kind deed or word is recorded. “Every act of love, every word of kindness, every prayer in behalf of the suffering and oppressed is reported before the eternal throne and placed on heaven’s imperishable record.” *5T 133*
2. **Kindness Prayer:** Every time we remember the needy, oppressed or a brother in prayer, it reveals the kindness we have in our heart for others. It is noted in the records of heaven. “. . . every prayer in behalf of the suffering and oppressed is reported before the eternal throne and placed on heaven’s imperishable record.” *5T 133*

3. **Kindness Perspective:** This term refers to our willingness, or lack of it, to perform acts of kindness and how God looks upon it. “God knows for what object we live, and whether our living is put to the very best account for poor, fallen humanity, or whether our eyes are eclipsed to everything but our own interest, and to everyone but our own poor selves. I entreat you, in behalf of Christ, in behalf of your own souls . . . not to think so lightly of this matter as many do.” *2T 330.*
4. **Kindness Reward:** This refers to the sure and inevitable rewards that come to us every time we respond to an impulse of kindness by performing a kind deed. “I was shown that should professed Christians cultivate more affection and kind regard in caring for others, they would be repaid fourfold. God marks.” *2T 329*
5. **Kindness Project:** This refers to persons you desire to touch by acts of kindness. It may take time, imagination and much prayer to find an entrance to the heart. But if we are determined, tactful and sincere, kindness will surely win out.
6. **Kindness Inventory:** This means that periodically (daily, weekly, or monthly) you will take stock or check to see how much and how often that you’ve been investing in your Kindness Bank. That is, regularly you ask yourself how often you’ve taken the time to be kind.
7. **Kindness Dairy:** This refers to something you might like to do for personal enrichment and future encouragement. Either on this sheet or in some book write down some of the deeds of kindness you’ve been blessed to perform.

A final word . . . Is Kindness Permissive?

No!

“Even kindness should have its limits. . . . The so-called tenderness, the coaxing and indulgence, used toward youth by parents and guardians, is one of the worst evils which can come upon them. In every family, firmness, decision, positive requirements, are essential.” *PK 236*

SEVENTY-FIVE WAYS OF BEING KIND

1. Smile and speak kindly to everyone.
2. Give fruit.
3. Give a bag of groceries.
4. Bake a loaf of bread and give to a neighbor.
5. Carry a meal to a sick person or an elderly person.
6. Visit a sick or a shut-in person.
7. Send greeting cards to sick and shut-ins.
8. Do laundry for the sick.
9. Clean house for the sick and shut-ins.
10. Offer to pay bills for the sick.
11. Carry them to pay their bills.
12. Speak an encouraging word in person or on the telephone.
13. Write an encouraging letter.
14. Go on an errand for a neighbor.
15. Help someone fix a flat tire.
16. Cut grass for elderly people.
17. Give someone a ride even if it means going out of your way.
18. Take a sick person to the hospital.
19. Visit persons in prison.
20. Offer to baby-sit for a neighbor.
21. Send neighbors a card when you are on vacation.
22. Call your neighbors and inquire how they are doing.
23. Make friendly visits and get acquainted with all of your neighbors.
24. Be sympathetic and helpful to your neighbors.
25. Take time to listen to others' problems.
26. Visit non-Christian relatives more often.
27. Welcome newcomers into the neighborhood.
28. Invite neighbors to a family outing.
29. Offer them the use of your telephone.
30. Compliment your neighbors on their yard, flowers, house, etc.
31. Develop the habit of praising the good qualities of your neighbors.
32. Lend to neighbors according to their need using direction and tact.
33. Assist a blind person.
34. Assist a handicapped individual.
35. Share clothing with the needy.
36. Offer emergency lodging to those in need.
37. Be sensitive to needs of relatives and friends.
38. Invite neighbors and relatives in for dinner.
39. Invite neighbors and relatives to your home for a social gathering.
40. Assist neighbors in various projects.
41. Look for ways to help in little things.
42. Be especially kind to the lonely.

43. Be especially kind to the aged.
44. Show appreciation for others' kindnesses.
45. Share vegetables from your garden with your neighbors.
46. Help your neighbor to wash his/her car.
47. Offer to repair a broken object if you are capable of doing so.
48. Sew a garment or repair one for a neighbor.
49. Share information that may be beneficial.
50. Offer to watch your neighbor's house when he/she is away.
51. Offer to check on your neighbor's mail during his/her absence.
52. Offer to watch the neighbor's children while she is shopping.
53. Help neighbor with stalled car.
54. Shovel snow for elderly persons.
55. Attend neighborhood club meetings.
56. Aid in neighborhood projects.
57. Offer to stay with handicapped or sick persons while the neighbor takes care of business.
58. Always give preference to neighbors.
59. Offer to help neighbors when they move by babysitting for them.
60. Give neighbors refreshments on the day they are moving.
61. Fix your neighbor's first meal for them on the day of their move.
62. Maintain friendly relations by keeping up your property and yard.
63. Offer to take in packages from the postman for your neighbors.
64. Offer to take your neighbor to or from the bus station, train station, or airport.
65. Bring a souvenir from a trip to your neighbor.
66. Visit neighbors and relatives in the hospital.
67. Prepare a dish of food for a bereaved family.
68. Offer to write letters or read for elderly or disabled persons.
69. Help a neighbor prepare and plant a garden.
70. Help persons carry groceries.
71. Give up your seat on a bus to an elderly or handicapped person.
72. Offer to make or receive phone calls for bereaved persons.
73. Offer to keep children or keep house during a funeral.
74. Remember birthdays and anniversaries of neighbors and relatives.
75. Help neighbors rake leaves.

Elder and Mrs. W. C. Scales, Jr.

How To Take Part In The Kindness Crusade

By virtue of the very nature of kindness itself, the Kindness Crusade must be something that you want to do personally, and, of course, voluntarily. Only the Spirit of god can prompt you to daily participate in it on a faithful and regular basis. However, you might find the following suggestions to be personally helpful and enriching:

1. Be kind to everyone you can, whenever you can, wherever you can by whatever means you can.
2. Think about being kind, pray about being kind, imagine new and different ways of being kind, and believe that through Christ you can be kind.
3. Think of being genuinely kind to everyone you come in contact with, and to those who live around you or who you are around daily.
4. In your private devotion, after having prayed for opportunities to be kind, and after having taken advantage of them, thank God for giving you opportunity to invest in your heavenly Kindness Bank.
5. The act of kindness that is recognized in the sight of heaven is one that is done, not for show and praise, but unselfishly and without strings attached (disinterested benevolence). Acts of kindness that you were fortunate enough to perform may be humbly shared in testimonial periods or other church meetings to encourage and inspire others. Also, if you desire, you could meet in small groups and discuss, testify, or plan new ways of being kind.
6. Periodically, review the following suggested ways of being kind by going through the different categories. To add additional interests and challenges, you might like to put some names under Kindness Project and put a check by the act of kindness that you were able to perform on the supplied line.
7. If you see that someone seems to be responding to your kindness, with tact and the Spirit's guidance, tell them about the love of Christ that motivates you and that He loves them. If they are further interested, invite them to various meetings of the church and be sure to let the Pastor and Elders know about the interest. Obviously, you must be careful, and you don't want to go too fast or be too pushy.
8. Finally, participating in the Kindness Crusade really boils down to being a plan, old "Christian", that is, being Christ-like. So everyone can participate and there's no limit to what you, plus the Holy Spirit can accomplish. We, along with all heaven, will count on you to motivate yourself, and to continue to perform the deeds of kindness as long as you name the name of Christ.

Suggested Ways of Being Kind Kindness Crusade

The following suggestions are only a few ways of being kind to different people at different times and places. They've been suggested and tried by different people under varied circumstance. Surely you can add a host of other positive ways. What not share them? However, only you, under the Holy Spirit's guidance, can decide what kindness act will best fit your personality and to whom you should direct it. PRAY. LOOK. And then TACTFULLY DO IT.

1. General Acts – Acquaintances, Strangers

- Smile and speak kindly to
- Encourage in person or on the telephone
- Help fix a flat tire
- Give someone a ride even it if means going out of your way
- Take time to listen to others' problems
- Assist in the little things
- Be courteous, patient, and polite
- Show appreciation for others' kindness
- Offer a Bible Study or Correspondence Course

2. Acts – Relatives (also Neighbors)

- Visit relatives, more especially non-Christians and those of other faiths
- Be sensitive to their needs and interests
- Invite home for dinner and/or social gatherings
- Assist in various projects they may be working on
- Sew a garment or make alterations for them
- Share information that may be beneficial
- Remember their birthdays and anniversaries
- Offer a Bible Study or Correspondence Course

3. Acts – Neighbors and Friends

- Go on an errand if they are in need
- Offer to baby-sit if there is a need
- Make or bake something for them
- Send them a card when you are away
- Remember their birthdays or anniversaries
- Call them occasionally and inquire how they are doing
- Make friendly visits and get acquainted with all of them
- Be sympathetic and helpful in the times of need

- Take time to listen to their needs and problems
- Welcome newcomers into the neighborhood
- Invite them to join in church or family outings
- Offer them the use of your telephone when there is a need
- compliment them on their yard, flowers, house, etc.
- Develop the habit of praising their good qualities
- Lend them according to their need, using tact and discretion
- Invite them to your home for dinner
- Assist when possible in positive community projects
- Share vegetables from your garden with them
- Sometimes help them wash their car
- Offer to repair a broken object if you are able to do so
- Help them with a stalled car, etc.
- Help them shovel snow, rake leaves
- Attend neighborhood club meetings
- Offer to help when they are moving out or in
- Fix a meal or dish when there is a need
- Maintain friendly relations by keeping up your property and yard
- When they are away offer to take packages or mail from the postman, or UPS
- Offer to take to the bus station or airport, when necessary
- Bring souvenir for them from a trip
- Visit them when they are in the hospital
- Help them plant or prepare a garden
- Help carry groceries
- Offer a Bible Study or Correspondence Course

4. Acts – Sick

- Visit in hospital
- Carry a meal or ditch to
- Send a get well card
- Tell them you are praying for them and do it
- Do laundry for
- If appropriate, give monetary gift
- Offer to clean the house, yard, or shovel snow
- Offer general help in any needed way

5. Acts – Infirm or Disabled

- Assist a blind, deaf, or hearing-impaired person
- Assist a handicapped person
- Be especially kind and understanding to
- Help in the yard and around the house
- Read to or sometimes just keep company with
- Take on errands
- Be willing to help in any way
- Give up your seat on the bus

6. Acts – Bereaved

- Send a card or flowers to the family
- Call right away and offer help
- Go by and offer to help with the children
- Offer to run errands or to take care of business
- Prepare a dish of food for
- Offer to make or receive phone calls for
- Offer to keep children or keep the house during the funeral
- Listen sympathetically to
- Be available if needed

7. Acts – Needy

- Share clothing with
- If appropriate, assist financially with discretion
- Be especially kind and understanding to the lonely and discouraged
- Give groceries when appropriate
- Help them try to find a job, etc.

8. Acts – Prison, Detention Centers

- Periodically visit them
- Periodically write letters
- Take literature to them
- Be understanding and kind, but know your limits
- Be a friend, listen more than talk
- Give them assurance of God's love for them and your concern

9. Acts – Elderly (and Nursing Home Residents)

- Visit and encourage
- Be cheerful and happy
- Sing songs, read the Bible and pray with
- Take literature to them
- Be especially thoughtful of lonely ones
- Periodically give appropriate gifts to
- Write letters and send cards to them

10. Acts – Youth

- Be sensitive of their needs and concerns
- Go by and pay a visit to them
- Listen to their problems and needs
- Offer encouragement to lonely, tempted or discouraged ones
- Be compassionate, rather than judgmental
- Invite home to dinner or to family outing
- Give a nice gift occasionally
- When possible, give them jobs to earn extra money
- Support youth meetings and projects
- Write encouraging letters and notes to
- Remember those in school by cards and assistance
- If possible, help out worthy students
- Find other ways to encourage and uplift
- Assist with transportation when needed

11. Acts – Miscellaneous

- Drive members to church who need transportation
- Invite friends to church meetings
- Help out an employee/employer on your job
- Help to keep the church attractive and clean
- Be a bearer of good tidings; talk positive
- Be quick to respond to a member's need
- Give out free literature and cards whenever possible
- Take time to study the Bible with interested ones
- Make an effort to be polite and courteous on the telephone
- Help out in the church any possible way
- Share your talent whenever you can
- Help other members by giving food and dishes
- Tell others what Christ means to you
- Be courteous and considerate when driving

- ___ Help to increase love and unity in every possible way
- ___ Be considerate of others in your prayers and testimonies
- ___ Prefer fellow-members before yourself
- ___ Express thanks for the kindnesses of others
- ___ Invite visitors to your home for dinner
- ___ Be considerate of God's work in the scheduling of your time
- ___ Be supportive of all church programs and church leaders
- ___ Be considerate of others and Christ in church meetings by being reverent, thoughtful and kind
- ___ Daily pray for the power of God's Spirit

12. Acts – Yours (write in your own thoughts)

KINDNESS PROJECTS

BE YE KIND ONE TO ANOTHER

Pastor D. W. Baker

