

**Commending myself to others by kindness**  
**II Corinthians 6:6-7**

1. Definition

- a. Greek noun chrēstotēs, G5544 = from the idea of usefulness and therefore virtuous, good, manageable and “under control,” and pleasant [as opposed to harsh], this word means *moral goodness, integrity, harmlessness* or *benignity, generosity*, kindness).
  - i. II Corinthians 6:6
  - ii. Galatians 5:18-26, translated as gentleness in v.22 (KJV)
  - iii. Colossians 3:12-17
- b. Related to Greek adjective chrēstos, G5543 = 1) fit, fit for use, useful, 1a) virtuous, good, 2) manageable, 2a) mild, pleasant (as opp. to harsh, hard sharp, bitter), 2b) of things: more pleasant, of people, kind, benevolent
  - i. Ephesians 4:25-5:2
- c. Related to Greek verb chrēsteuomai, G5541 = to *show oneself useful*, that is, *act benevolently*: - be kind
  - i. I Corinthians 13:1-7 (not marital love, but communal love)

2. God’s mission

- a. God showed me in baptism and the regeneration and renewal it brings what usefulness is like
  - i. Titi 3:4-7
  - ii. Ephesians 2:1-10
  - iii. II Corinthians 5:20-6:10
- b. This is “kindness”
  - i. Romans 2:4
  - ii. Romans 11:22-23

3. My focus

- a. Kindness compels me to leave all types of malice, deceit, hypocrisy, envying, and slander as attitudes and behaviors intended for only my benefit
  - i. I Peter 2:1-3
  - ii. Ephesians 4:31-5:2
- b. In short, I stop sins used to control others and cultivate a taste for spiritual things – benefitting others