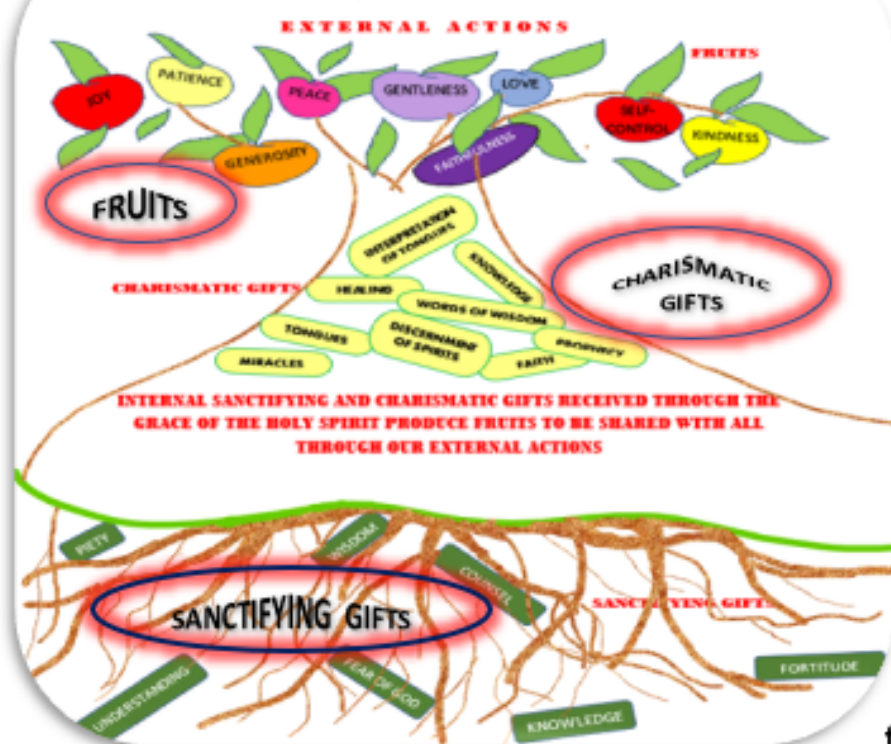


DESIRE THE GIFTS – LIVE THE FRUITS

KINDNESS

GIFTS AND FRUITS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT



Col 3:12 *As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.*

Eph 2:4-7 *God ... made us alive together with Christ ... so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness towards us in Christ Jesus.*

KINDNESS ... In **John 8:-11**, Jesus stops the crowd from stoning a prostitute. She was sinning, ignoring His Father's commandment, and bringing others to sin also, surely, He was crestfallen. Then, the Pharisees had to question His thoughts of their death sentence. He, of course, just stoops down quietly and starts writing in the dirt, supposedly ignoring them. The story ends with Jesus enlightening the crowd

of their own sinful ways so as to negate their death penalty wishes. Jesus' kindness is displayed when He, still stooping, looked up at her. He did not look down on her as if in disrespect. In kindness and compassion, and without harsh reprimands for sinfully offending God, He reminds her that no one condemned her, not even Him. He only told her to sin no more. In **Matthew 8:1-4**, Jesus, out of compassion and kindness, heals a leper, one who was at that time labeled a sinner and shunned person. He touched him with kindness, something we at times find so hard to do with the lepers in our lives. And so, we are asked to do the same. How can we, who also sin, be unkind and judgmental to others that fall into sin. Kindness to others, especially in times of disagreement, can become an ointment for them, a method for healing and softening of emotions. We do not use kindness dishonestly as a way to win someone over, but with sincerity as someone who wishes to bring others to the knowledge that God is the ultimate giver of kindness and forgiveness. **HOLY SPIRIT COME!**

INTERCESSORY PRAYER TO ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON THE FRUIT OF KINDNESS:

St. Elizabeth, as we desire to emulate your kind, generous, and courageous virtues, please ask Our Lord for the graces to do so. Your determination in your gentle and kind manner gives us hope to proceed in the holy life desired by God Our Father. Please pray for us.
AMEN

