

"IMPARTING GRACE TO THE HEARERS"

The Art of Encouragement

2Timothy 1:16-18

“The Lord give mercy unto the house of Onesiphorus; for he oft refreshed me, and was not ashamed of my chain: 17. But, when he was in Rome, he sought me out very diligently, and found me. 18. The Lord grant unto him that he may find mercy of the Lord in that day: and in how many things he ministered unto me at Ephesus, thou knowest very well.”

What is a compliment?

- "An expression of praise, admiration or congratulation; a formal act of praise, courtesy, or respect; a ceremonious greeting or remembrance; 'to pay a compliment' is to show fondness, regard, respect, or favor; From Latin word meaning to complete or fill up courtesy or proper behavior."
- Sounds as if it should be a part of a Christian's manner of life.

WHY? BECAUSE OF...

- Obligation - Phil. 2:25-30; 1Thes 5:12-13
- The effect on the receiver - Rev. 3:8-11; 2Tim. 3:14-15
- In payment of gratitude - 2Tim. 4:11
- To draw nearer to the saints - Philemon 4-9

WHAT KINDS OF COMPLIMENTS?

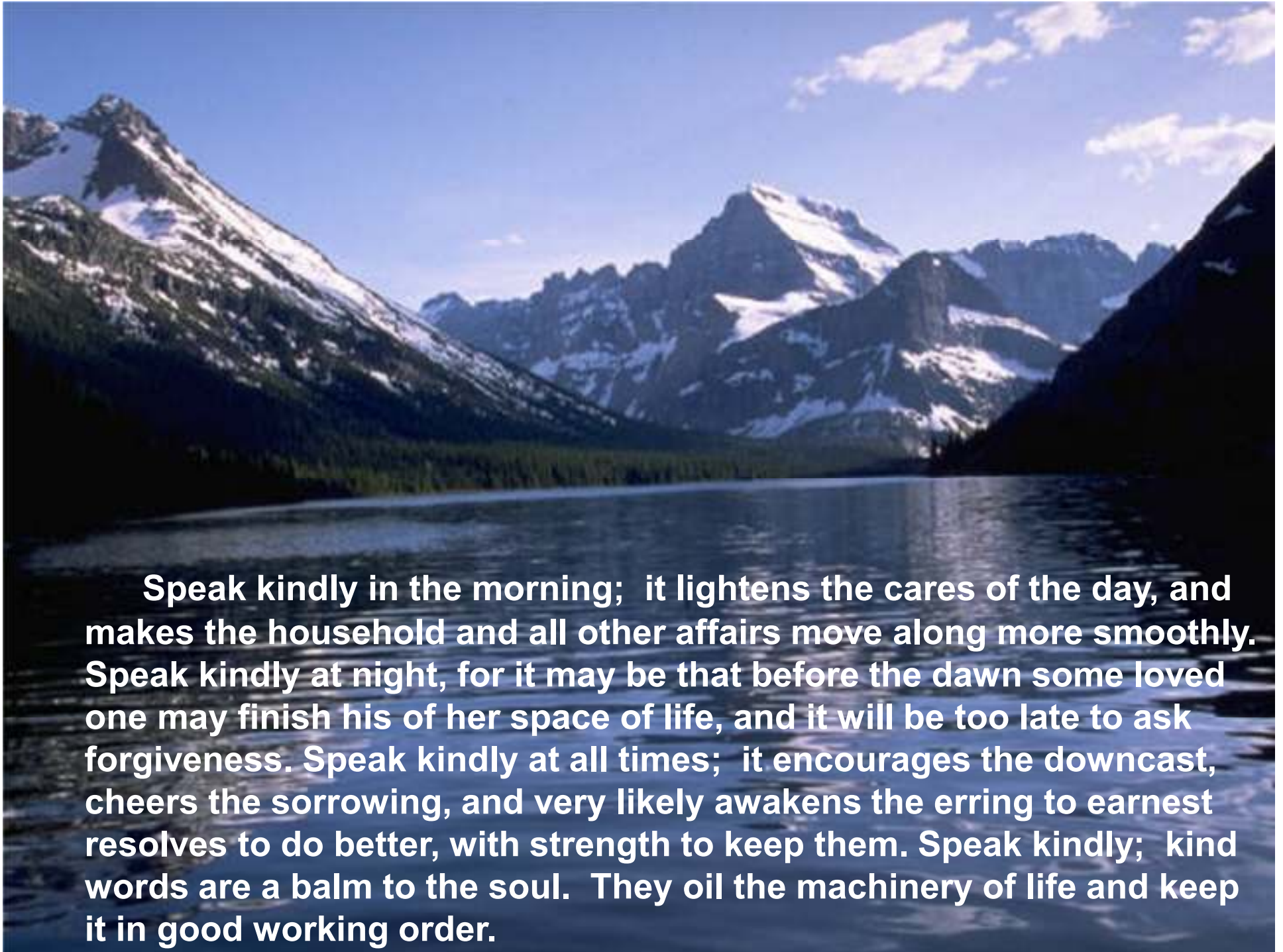
- Direct Statement - 2Tim. 1:4-5;
Heb. 6:9-11
- Recommendation - Phil. 2:19-23;
2Tim. 1:6-7
- Caring reproof - Gal. 2:11-14
- Assignment of a task - 1Cor. 15:8-10

WHAT ARE THE RESULTS?

- Renewed confidence in the hearer -
Col. 4:9,12-13
- Increased fellowship - 3John 3-6
- Increased unity among the saints -
2Peter 3:15
- Returned blessings to the speaker -
1Thes. 2:13-14,19-20

HOW TO RECEIVE A COMPLIMENT

- Accept the compliment without deflecting it.
- Choose an appropriate time to return your own compliment.
- Avoid fishing for more compliments.
- Thank the speaker.



Speak kindly in the morning; it lightens the cares of the day, and makes the household and all other affairs move along more smoothly. Speak kindly at night, for it may be that before the dawn some loved one may finish his or her space of life, and it will be too late to ask forgiveness. Speak kindly at all times; it encourages the downcast, cheers the sorrowing, and very likely awakens the erring to earnest resolves to do better, with strength to keep them. Speak kindly; kind words are a balm to the soul. They oil the machinery of life and keep it in good working order.

Has God ever paid you a
compliment?

Rom. 5:8; Matt. 25:21