

## Love Dare – *Daring to Love Your Parents* - Day 2

### “Love is Kind”

*Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you. – Ephesians 4:32*

Kindness is love in action. Yesterday your goal was to show patience and not to say anything unkind, to hold your tongue as it were. Today your goal is to show your love for your parents by saying and doing things that show your kindness. When you show kindness to others they will want to be around you. Do you like to hang out with whiners and complainers? I sure don't. Guess what, your parents don't either! As a parent, I know that hearing a lot of whining and complaining gets old in a hurry. If there is kindness and appreciation being shown, you can relax and enjoy the time together; but if it's constant complaints then it makes it difficult to relax and enjoy being with the child. Make it easy on yourself, show kindness and appreciation and watch how much more fun your parents will be.

I know understanding this can be a little confusing, in the book “Love Dare” by the Kendricks they break it down into the four ingredients of kindness:

**Gentleness.** This means that you're careful how you talk to your parents. You're more sensitive to what they have done for you. You're more appreciative of what they have done for you. You're more grateful for what they have done for you. You don't grump, complain, or talk back to them when you are displaying gentleness.

**Helpfulness.** Instead of trying to get out of helping around the house you find ways that you can make your parents lives easier! This will make a huge difference if your parents aren't always begging you to do something and constantly having to remind you to do what you are supposed to do! This will drive your parents nuts!!!! They will begin trying to figure out what in the world you want from them. Look around and figure out what you can do to help out. Even go so far as to ask what you can do to help and then be willing to do whatever is asked of you. Do this one for the next 40 days and watch the respect that your parents have for you grow in increasing measures.

**Willingness.** Kindness inspires you to be agreeable. Instead of being a pain in your parents side about doing things, be willing to do what is asked right away. Instead of being slow to respond and having to be asked several times, do it right away. Instead of complaining and making excuses about things, look for ways to be agreeable and helpful.

**Initiative.** Kindness thinks ahead. Pull yourself away from the computer, cell phone, or video game and go looking for ways to make your parents lives easier. This will really blow their mind!!

So what's in this for you? Well, a lot actually. If your parents aren't always having to harp on you to get things done. If they don't have to worry about how your going to complain and argue about it, and if they aren't having to do quite so much around the house. They will be more relaxed and have more time to spend with you and enjoy having you around. You get the enjoyment of having a more peaceful place to live. Just keep in mind that doing these things will blow their minds for a while so be prepared to do them long term.

**Pray:** Pray that you can show kindness to your entire family.

Pray that God will help you see opportunities to help and be of service to your parents and the rest of your family.

Pray for the initiative to do a random act of kindness today

***The Love Dare Challenge:*** *In addition to saying nothing negative to your parents again today, do at least one unexpected gesture as an act of kindness.*

**Write down how your parents or siblings responded to your attitude and actions.**