

## I WILL RESPOND GRACIOUSLY WITH LOVING KINDNESS

### Psalm 116: 12-15

When you feel you have been attacked or unjustly criticized the natural response is to defend yourself. There are times when people should defend themselves; there are times when a nation should defend itself, but many fights are avoidable. This nation had to defend itself when we were attacked in Pearl Harbor. The Civil War could have been avoided if the South had recognized the humanity and rights of people of color. Too many times we have reacted when we were attacked or criticized, rather than respond graciously.

As we travel down memory lane this Memorial Day weekend, we should not only reflect on the fallen soldiers in the military and of faith but we should reflect on the unnecessary battles that we have experienced all because we did not respond with loving kindness. We found ourselves in a battle because we reacted to a situation rather than responding graciously with kindness.

In the book "I WILL" we are reminded that we should overcome the *I don't* spirit or the *I won't* attitude with I WILL GO or I WILL RESPOND graciously with loving kindness.

Let me share with you three ways that we can respond graciously with loving kindness.

1. I Will Speak about God's Benefits.
  - A. His precious peace
  - B. His precious presence
  
2. I Will Share My Beliefs.
  - A. Transforming prayer
  - B. Transforming power
  
3. I Will Show Others His Blessings.
  - A. Prepare others for abundant life
  - B. Prepare others for eternal life