

Gentleness

Humble Strength Under Control

Definition: Gentleness is the Spirit-wrought humility of heart by which a believer uses strength, speech, and authority with tenderness, restraint, and care for the good of others.

Growth Pattern

Gentleness often begins as conviction over harshness, blossoms into humility, forms into restrained strength, and ripens into restorative care.

Growth factors	Dangers to watch
Stage 1: Grafted - Conviction I see my harsh speech, defensiveness, domination, or misuse of strength.	Danger 1: Grafted - Conviction Confusing gentleness with weakness, passivity, or never confronting sin.
Stage 2: Flowering - Desire I want my strength, opinions, and authority to be governed by humility and care.	Danger 2: Flowering - Desire Adopting a mild tone without real humility of heart.
Stage 3: Early Fruit - Costly Obedience I restrain my tongue, correct with care, listen before reacting, and use authority tenderly.	Danger 3: Early Fruit - Costly Obedience Avoiding necessary truth or becoming fearful rather than gentle.
Stage 4: Ripe Fruit - Settled Service I use strength in Christ to restore, protect, correct, and serve without harshness.	Danger 4: Ripe Fruit - Settled Service Pride in being gentle or impatience with harsh and immature people.

Self-analysis: ☐ Conviction ☐ Desire ☐ Early fruit ☐ Ripe fruit

Where do I see this fruit beginning or growing?

Where do I need to repent and abide in Christ?

What danger at this stage do I need to watch?

Who may need to taste this fruit from me?

One act of obedience or prayer this week:

Primary Texts: Galatians 5:22-23; Matthew 11:28-30; Matthew 22:37-40; Exodus 20:12-17; Proverbs 22:6; Ephesians 6:4; 2 Corinthians 10:1; Galatians 6:1; Ephesians 4:1-3; Colossians 3:12-13; 2 Timothy 2:24-25; 1 Peter 3:15; Proverbs 15:1; James 3:13