



THE XPONENTIAL BRANCH

WEEK 8
May 26-27, 2018



BEARING FRUIT Part 4 GENTLENESS, SELF-CONTROL

John 15:1-5 / Galatians 5:22-23

When we are mistreated or disappointed, it's very easy to respond in anger with harsh, hurtful words. But that is not what Christ demonstrates, nor is it what we receive through abiding in Him.

GENTLENESS: mild, tender action or effect. *

SELF-CONTROL: mastering one's desires and behavior especially in difficult situations.

The very reality of delay in God's judgement for our sins demonstrates both **GENTLENESS** and **SELF-CONTROL**. He has not given us what we deserve. But instead, by His gentle hand, gave us His son and embraced us.

God restrained His wrath from those who sinned, pouring it out on His Son who knew no sin, but became sin on the Cross (2 Corinthians 5:21).

Abiding in Christ provides us with the grace necessary to live as He lived. To give a gentle word when we'd rather do otherwise. To keep our flesh and emotions under control when we would previously lose control only to regret it later. Gentleness and self-control are clear demonstrations of Christlikeness.

* Scriptures: Proverbs 15:1; Psalm 18:35; Matthew 5:5; Matthew 11:29; Matthew 21:5; Galatians 6:1; Philippians 4:5; Colossians 3:12; 1 Timothy 6:11; 2 Timothy 2:23-25; 1 Peter 3:4

FACTORPOINTS:



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