



bearfruit

FAITHFULNESS & GENTLENESS

MAY 7TH, 2023
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FAITHFULNESS:

Faithfulness is having a _____ with _____ and _____ based on my _____ to those relationships.

“ Your unfailing love, O Lord, is as vast as the heavens; your faithfulness reaches beyond the clouds.”

~ PSALM 36:5 (NLT)

“ Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. Then you will win favor and a good name in the sight of God and man.”

~ PROVERBS 3:3-4 (NIV)

so what?

How to live out faithfulness:

Know God is _____.

“ So be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid and do not panic before them. For the Lord your God will personally go ahead of you. He will neither fail you nor abandon you.”

~ DEUTERONOMY 31:6 (NLT)

Do the _____.

“ The master said, 'Well done, my good and faithful servant. You have been faithful in handling this small amount, so now I will give you many more responsibilities. Let's celebrate together!'"

~ MATTHEW 25:23 (NIV)

GENTLENESS:

Gentleness is being _____, _____, and _____ in my dealings with others.

“ Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near.” ~ PHILIPPIANS 4:5 (NIV)

How to display Gentleness:

Give _____.

“ A gentle answer deflects anger, but harsh words make tempers flare.” ~ PROVERBS 15:1 (NLT)

“ And I tell you this, you must give an account on judgment day for every idle word you speak. The words you say will either acquit you or condemn you.”

~ MATTHEW 12:36-37 (NLT)

Through _____ .

“ Never pay back evil with more evil. Do things in such a way that everyone can see you are honorable. Do all that you can to live in peace with everyone.
Dear friends, never take revenge. Leave that to the righteous anger of God. For the Scriptures say,
‘I will take revenge; I will pay them back,’ says the Lord.
Instead,
‘If your enemies are hungry, feed them. If they are thirsty, give them something to drink.
In doing this, you will heap burning coals of shame on their heads.’
Don’t let evil conquer you, but conquer evil by doing good.”

~ ROMANS 12:17-21 (NLT)

Develop _____ .

“ Since God chose you to be the holy people he loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Make allowance for each other’s faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.”

~ COLOSSIANS 3:12-13 (NLT)

so what?

“ Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth.”

~ MATTHEW 5:5 (NIV)

Gentleness is _____ .

“ You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had.
Though he was God,
he did not think of equality with God
as something to cling to.
Instead, he gave up his divine privileges;
he took the humble position of a slave
and was born as a human being.
When he appeared in human form,
he humbled himself in obedience to God
and died a criminal’s death on a cross.
Therefore, God elevated him to the place of highest honor
and gave him the name above all other names,”

~ PHILIPPIANS 2:5-9 (NLT)

discussion questions:

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- 1 - Who has the longest and healthiest marriage you know?
How did you see faithfulness in their relationship along the way?
- 2 - What do you think is the root or cause of unfaithfulness towards God or others?
- 3 - Re-read Proverbs 3:3-4. What does it mean to be faithful on the outside?
(bind them around your neck)
What does it mean to be faithful in your heart?
- 4 - In what area or relationship do you need to stay faithful right now?
What is the “next right thing” you need to do?
- 5 - Which part of gentleness do you struggle with more? Being thoughtful, considerate, or calm? Why?
- 6 - Re-read Proverbs 15:1. When do you find it most difficult to hold your tongue and not respond with harsh words?
How can you find the strength for a gentle answer in those moments?
- 7 - Re-read Romans 12:17-21. Are there certain circumstances in your life that makes gentle actions nearly impossible?
How can you allow God in those circumstances to help you alter your reactions?

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