

Fruit of the Spirit Series: **Gentleness**

Pastor Bryan Keith Dugger - 10/27/2019



**I. Aggravated & Aggressive**

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**II. The Gentle Savior**

Matthew 11:28-30

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**III. A Spirit of Gentleness**

Galatians 6:1-2

v. 1

Accountability & Restoration

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v. 2

Sharing Life's Burdens

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**IV. Growing in Gentleness**

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**Personal Reflection**

*Take time this week to pray & reflect on the following:*

*Gentleness is not weakness. It is a kind and humble empathy that is neither easily provoked nor slow to forgive. Though gentleness is more often associated with feminine character, it is in fact a virtue and fruit of the Holy Spirit that God expects and enables both men and women to equally possess.*

*In a world so tainted by aggression, Holy Spirit empowered gentleness is the tender-hearted alternative to cruelty and indifference. When you allow gentleness to define the tone of your interactions with others, you reveal the power and strength of God's presence in your life. Understand that your strength is a gift from Him that is given for the furtherance of His will and the promotion of His glory. Wield your strength with tenderness.*

*The world needs the love and leading of the gentle Savior. He invites each one into fellowship and offers them the gift of eternal life. For many, the opportunity to know the saving grace of God is first experienced through interaction with God's people. It matters whether or not you are a gentle follower of Jesus Christ.*

*Is the gentleness of God apparent in your life? Is your heart guarded against hardness and callousness? Have the struggles of difficult circumstances or past hurts buried your gentleness under a mountain of sarcasm or hidden it behind a thick curtain of fear? Are you willing to let the Holy Spirit tear down that barrier so that you may share the joy of God's love and mercy with others?*

*Prayerfully ask God to soften your heart and empower you with a gentle spirit. Invite him to humble you and strengthen your courage in the face of an increasingly aggressive and aggravated world. Thank Him for gentle way in which He loves and leads His people.*