All In with Jordan Easley

Gentleness

Fruit Of The Spirit | Week 4 | Galatians 5

NOTES INTRODUCTION There are a lot of different ways that the word "gentleness" can be defined. But there's one specific definition I want to focus on today as we continue our discussion of the fruit of the Spirit. The Greeks actually define gentleness as "power under control." It's not weakness or being soft or living a passive life where you get trampled on and taken advantage of. To live a gentle life is to live like Jesus. In Matthew 11, we see that Jesus is gentle. He said in verses 28-29, "Come to me, all of you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take up my yoke and learn from me, because I am lowly and humble in heart." Jesus wasn't weak, He was powerful, which shows us once again that gentleness isn't weakness, it's power under control. So with this truth in mind, I want us to answer two questions today. **KEY POINTS** 1. How will I use the power God has given me? God designed Christians to be gentle giants. We are not weak warriors, but gentle giants that demonstrate the love of God and represent the heart of God as we interact with people in this life. When things get crazy and heated and tempers start to flare, you possess the power to escalate things or eliminate things. You possess the power to crush your enemy and destroy them and put them in their place, and you also possess the power to demonstrate the fruit of the Spirit in a different way by extending supernatural gentleness and grace. Remember, gentleness is power under control, and what you do with that power matters. 2. How do we put on the clothes of gentleness in our lives? This question has a very straightforward answer: Live your life surrendered to Christ. Here's what I know to be true. If you just try to be a little more gentle this week, it's not going to work. Do you know why? Because Gentleness doesn't happen through willpower; it happens through God's power.

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Remember, the fruit of the Spirit is a supernatural gift, not a natural one. Supernatural gifts are given by God and grown by God because we naturally lack these things in our lives. Therefore, if we're going to be gentle, it's going to be through His power working within us, not because of anything we muster up in our own strength. Without the power of God in your life, you will never possess the gifts of God or demonstrate the fruit of God.

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QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1.	Before hearing today	y's message, l	how would you	have defined "	'gentleness"	?
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- 2. When was a time you missed an opportunity to be gentle with someone? What did you learn from that experience?
- 3. What is one practical way you can practice gentleness this week?

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