



Gentleness

The Fruit of the Spirit

Gal. 5:22-23a; Matt. 11:28-29

Gentleness

Gentleness is one of the greatest demonstrations of **strength** to...

Gentleness is one of the greatest demonstrations of **strength** to...

- Control your anger

Gentleness is one of the greatest demonstrations of **strength** to...

- Control your anger
- Hold your tongue

Gentleness is one of the greatest demonstrations of **strength** to...

- Control your anger
- Hold your tongue
- Respond graciously

Gentleness is one of the greatest demonstrations of **strength** to...

- Control your anger
- Hold your tongue
- Respond graciously
- Forgive instead of getting even

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love,
joy, peace, patience, kindness,
goodness, faithfulness,
gentleness and self-control...”

(Galatians 5:22,23a, NIV)

Fruit Grows

Fruit Grows

Christian gentleness **grows**

Fruit Grows

Christian gentleness **grows**
as the life of Jesus Christ **grows**
in us through the Holy Spirit

1. Gentleness is
strength under control

“As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received.”

(Ephesians 4:1,2, NIV)

“Be completely **humble** and **gentle**; be patient, bearing with one another in love.”

(Ephesians 4:1,2, NIV)

Humility : internal attitude

Humility : **internal** attitude

Gentleness : **external** expression
in behavior and interactions

2. Gentleness

Jesus is our model

“Come to me, all you who are
weary and burdened, and I will
give you rest.”

(Matthew 11:28, NIV)

“Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.”

(Matthew 11:29, NIV)

Jesus' heart...
gentle and humble



JESUS AND THE WOMAN OF SAMARIA

Gentleness **sees the person**
before it sees the problem

**3. Gentleness is the
Christian way of life**

“If someone is caught in sin, you who live by the Spirit should restore that person **gently**.”

(Galatians 6:1, NIV)

“If someone is caught in sin, you who live by the Spirit should **restore** that person gently.”

(Galatians 6:1, NIV)

Jesus' heart...
restoration



PETER DENIES KNOWING JESUS

And Jesus asks Peter,

“Do you love me?”

(1 John 21:15-17, NIV)

- ✓ 3 denials
- ✓ 3 questions: “**Do you love me?**”
- ✓ 3 opportunities for restoration

- ✓ 3 denials
- ✓ 3 questions: “**Do you love me?**”
- ✓ 3 opportunities for restoration

“**Feed my sheep**”

- ✓ 3 denials
- ✓ 3 questions: “**Do you love me?**”
- ✓ 3 opportunities for restoration

“**Feed my sheep**”

Your failure isn't the end of your story.

Somebody else's **behavior**
does not have to determine
my **behavior**

“Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect...”

(1 Peter 3:15, NIV)

“Always **be prepared** to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect...”

(1 Peter 3:15, NIV)

“Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But **do this with gentleness and respect...**”

(1 Peter 3:15, NIV)

Sometimes the most
Christlike words are:

“I’m sorry. Please forgive
me.”

“The Lord’s servant must not be quarrelsome but must be kind to everyone ...Opponents must be **gently** instructed.”

(2 Timothy 2:24,25, NIV)

How do we grow in gentleness?

How do we grow in gentleness?

1. Remember how gentle God has been with you

The more deeply we
understand **grace**, the more
deeply we give **grace**

How do we grow in gentleness?

1. Remember how gentle God has been with you
2. Stay close to Jesus

How do we grow in gentleness?

1. Remember how gentle God has been with you
2. Stay close to Jesus
3. Pause before you react.

The **World** says...

Jesus says...

- Get even

The **World** says...

- Get even

Jesus says...

- Forgive

The **World** says...

- Get even
- Win

Jesus says...

- Forgive

The **World** says...

- Get even
- Win

Jesus says...

- Forgive
- Serve

The **World** says...

- Get even
- Win
- Make them pay

Jesus says...

- Forgive
- Serve

The **World** says...

- Get even
- Win
- Make them pay

Jesus says...

- Forgive
- Serve
- Pray for them

The **World** says...

- Get even
- Win
- Make them pay
- Fight back

Jesus says...

- Forgive
- Serve
- Pray for them

The **World** says...

- Get even
- Win
- Make them pay
- Fight back

Jesus says...

- Forgive
- Serve
- Pray for them
- Trust your Father



“Humility comes a lot easier when you really know yourself, when you know the weak and flawed person who is living inside the shell you have on the outside.”

—Wright, *Cultivating the Fruit of the Spirit*

““Then, out of the deep well of self-knowledge and gratitude for the grace of God that has rescued you from your own sin and failure, comes humility before God and gentleness towards others.”

—Wright, *Cultivating the Fruit of the Spirit*

“ If God has been gentle and gracious to me, and if I would like other people to be gentle with me when I mess up, then let me pray to be like that to them.”

—Wright, *Cultivating the Fruit of the Spirit*

““ As a forgiven sinner myself, let me welcome others to the fellowship of the forgiven. Let the gentle fruit of the Spirit ripen in my life and relationships.”

—*Wright, Cultivating the Fruit of the Spirit*



Gentleness

The Fruit of the Spirit

Gal. 5:22-23a; Matt. 11:28-29