

THE STRENGTH OF GENTLENESS

Matthew 5:5

The Keys to a Blessed Life– Part 3
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Matthew 5:5

“God blesses those who are gentle. The whole earth will belong to them!”

GENTLENESS IS STRENGTH under control

BENEFITS OF BEING GENTLE

1. GENTLENESS DIFFUSES CONFLICT

Proverbs 15:1 (NIV) *“A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.”*

Gentleness is an antidote to anger

2. GENTLENESS DISARMS CRITICS

1 Corinthians 4:13 (NLT) *“We respond gently when evil things are said about us.”*

Titus 2:8 (LB) *“Your conversation should be so sensible that anyone who wants to argue will be ashamed because there won’t be anything to criticize in anything you say!”*

2 Tim. 2:24-25 (NIV/LB) *“The Lord's servant must never quarrel; instead, he must be kind and gentle with everyone, He must be able to teach effectively and be patient with difficult people Those who oppose him he must gently instruct, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to know the truth.”*

Ask God for a tough skin and a tender heart

3. GENTLENESS IS PERSUASIVE

Proverbs 25:15b (Mes) *“Gentle speech breaks down rigid defenses.”*

(NCV) *“A gentle word can get through to the hard-headed.”*

Proverbs 16:21 (TEV) *“A wise, mature person is known for understanding. The more pleasant his words, the more persuasive he is.”*

I’m never persuasive when I’m abrasive

4. GENTLENESS IS ATTRACTIVE

1 TIM. 6:11 (GW) *“As a man of God... pursue what God approves of: godliness, faith, love, endurance, and gentleness”*

1 Peter 3:4 (NLT) *“You should be known for the beauty that comes from within, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is so precious to God.”*

5. GENTLENESS COMMUNICATES LOVE

Colossians 3:19 (NCV) *“Husbands, love your wives and be gentle with them.”*

Ephesians 6:4 (Amp) *“Fathers, do not irritate and provoke your children to anger. Do not exasperate them to resentment, but rear them tenderly in the training and discipline and counsel of the Lord.”*

Gentle men are gentlemen

6. GENTLENESS EARNS RESPECT

Proverbs 11:16 (Mes) “*A woman of gentle grace will be respected.*”

Leadership is earned, it is learned and it is discerned. It is never demande

7. GENTLENESS IS A WITNESS TO UNBELIEVERS

Titus 3:2 (GW) “*Believers should never speak evil of ANYONE, nor be quarrelsome. Instead they should be gentle and show courtesy to everyone.*”

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.*”)

People aren’t going to trust Jesus until first they trust you

8. GENTLENESS MAKES ME LIKE JESUS.

Matthew 11:28-29 (NIV) “*Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. 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.*”

Galatians 5:22-23 (NIV) “*The fruit of the Spirit is . . . gentleness!*”

Question number one. Doesn’t this mean that if I want to be like Jesus I’ve got to learn to be gentle? **Yes**.

Question number two: Is it possible that the stress you’re feeling in your life and the pressure you’re feeling in your life is because you are not gentle? **Yes**.

HOW CAN I PRACTICE GENTLENESS WITH PEOPLE THIS WEEK?

1. When someone serves me, be undersanding not demanding
2. When somebody disagrees with me this week, be tender without surrender
3. When somebody disappoints me –be gentle not judgmental