

I. Let your gentleness be known

- A. "Reasonableness" or gentleness (1 Samuel 12:22; Psalm 86:5; 2 Kings 6:3; 1 Timothy 3:3; Titus 3:2; James 3:17)
- B. When in a position of power or authority, we are to be patient, lenient, just, merciful.
- C. When in a position of vulnerability: we are to be forbearing, patient, respectful. (1 Corinthians 7:20-23)
- D. In any relationship (2 Corinthians 10:1)
  - i. we are to cherish the well being of the other person, and patiently call on God
  - ii. we want the person we deal with to be attracted to Christ through us.

II. The Lord is near

- A. Near to coming, near to us (Matthew 24:32; John 2:13; Matthew 26:18; Luke 21:31; Romans 13:11; Luke 19:11; John 3:23; 11:18; 19:42; Acts 1:12; Ephesians 2:13)
- B. A warning, a tremendous comfort (Psalm 14:4; Isaiah 38:5)

III. Anxiety or prayer?

- A. How do you deal with anxiety?
- B. The true solution: giving it to God in prayer (Luke 12:22-31)
- C. The two main parts of prayer:
- D. The promise: the peace of God will guard your hearts and your minds.
- E. Why *don't* we pray more?
- F. This is a *pride* and *unbelief* problem (1 Peter 5:6-7; Psalm 131:1).
- G. We know that we will be heard (Luke 12:32)