

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT



Fruit *of* *the* Spirit

evidence that God is at work in your life

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

- **Galatians 5:22-23** — *“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.”*

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

- God the Father wants to transmit and impart **9 specific elements** of the fruit of the Holy Spirit up into our personalities

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

- God wants all of us to enter into a true sanctification process with Him so that He can begin the process of molding, shaping, and transforming us into the express image of His Son Jesus Christ

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

- When we're filled with the Holy Spirit we'll evidence the **fruit of the Spirit** in our lives

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT



Gentleness



DEFINITION OF GENTLENESS

- ***“the quality of being kind, tender, or mild-mannered”***
- ***“softness of action or effect; lightness”***
- ***“kindness, consideration and amiability”***

DEFINITION OF GENTLENESS

- ***“mildness of manners or disposition”***

GENTLENESS

- Gentleness can be defined as meekness
- Meekness is “*showing mildness or quietness of nature*”
- The Greek word “*praotes*” means “*gentleness, mildness, meekness*”

GENTLENESS

- Sadly The King James Version translating this verse as “**meekness**” has brought about much confusion
- “**Meekness**” in modern day English means someone who is weak and wimpy

GENTLENESS

- But in the Bible it means “*the fruit of power*” i.e. a person who has strength under control

GENTLENESS

- The Greeks used this verse to describe strong/wild animals that were brought under control



GENTLENESS

- ***“The watchdog who is bravely hostile to strangers and gently friendly with familiars whom he knows and loves.” – Barclay***



EXAMPLES OF GENTLENESS

- Gentleness or meekness is not weakness
- There are only two individuals in the Bible who are described by this word – The **Lord Jesus** (**Matthew 11:29; 21:5**) and **Moses** (**II Corinthians 10:1**)

EXAMPLES OF GENTLENESS

- Their “***Gentleness***” or “***meekness***” was a heart surrendered to God, teachable spirit and gentle strength
- Gentleness is power under control; it is power under God’s control

EXAMPLES OF GENTLENESS

- “***Gentleness***” or “***meekness***” is that attitude of spirit we accept God’s dealings with us as good and do not dispute or resist

EXAMPLES OF GENTLENESS

- When Jesus exhibited anger as he cleansed the temple, His anger sprouted from the fact that the money changers and the temple leaders were making God look bad



HOW TO CULTIVATE GENTLENESS

- **Submissiveness to the will of God – Philippians 2:1-8 –**
“Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy

HOW TO CULTIVATE GENTLENESS

- **Submissiveness to the will of God – Philippians 2:1-8 –**
“complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others

HOW TO CULTIVATE GENTLENESS

- **Submissiveness to the will of God – Philippians 2:1-8 –**
“above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God,

HOW TO CULTIVATE GENTLENESS

- **Submissiveness to the will of God – Philippians 2:1-8** – “*did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.*”

HOW TO CULTIVATE GENTLENESS

- **Submissiveness to the will of God** – **Philippians 2:1-8** – “*And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!*”

HOW TO CULTIVATE GENTLENESS

- **Submissiveness to the will of God** – If we are going to be gentle, we must relinquish our power to another, that one is God
- If we cannot be submissive to the will of God, we will have trouble being gentle because we will be under our own control

HOW TO CULTIVATE GENTLENESS

- **Teachable spirit** –



Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.

James 1:21

HOW TO CULTIVATE GENTLENESS

- **Teachable spirit** – If we do not have a teachable spirit, we will not be able to receive the instruction we need to be able to be like Jesus

HOW TO CULTIVATE GENTLENESS

- **Teachable spirit** – If we think we know it all already, we will never grow, and if we cannot grow, we will not be able to be the gentle person God wants us to be

HOW TO CULTIVATE GENTLENESS

- **Teachable spirit** – We generally nit pick at things but we let the more important matters of faith slip through our fingers
- A teachable spirit is part of being submissive to the will of God

HOW TO CULTIVATE GENTLENESS

- **Consideration of others** – **Philippians 2:1-8** teaches us that we are to put others first
- We need to be considerate of others' feelings, we need to be able to put ourselves in their shoes, we need to be able to empathize with others

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

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

Ephesians 4:1-2

HOW TO CULTIVATE GENTLENESS

- **Consideration of others** – Our walk with Jesus is not worthy if we are not showing tolerance for one another
- Talk means nothing without walk!

GENTLENESS IN PRACTICE

- **Helping a struggling brother** – It is easy to feel morally superior around people who do not share our particular failings
- But the Scriptures teach us to beware of spiritual pride and to seek to restore those caught in a sin in a “*spirit of gentleness*”

Pick me up when I fall

1 Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But **watch yourself, or you also may be tempted.** 2 Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. 3 **If anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself.** 4 Each one should test his own actions. **Galatians 6:1-4**

GENTLENESS IN PRACTICE

- **Helping a struggling brother** –
What attitudes do you have toward people caught in sin?
- How would God have you speak to sinners, remembering that you were once outside His grace?

GENTLENESS IN PRACTICE

- In exhibiting forgiveness –



THEREFORE, AS THE
ELECT OF GOD, HOLY AND
BELOVED, PUT ON TENDER MERCIES,
KINDNESS, HUMILITY, MEEKNESS,
LONGSUFFERING, BEARING WITH ONE
ANOTHER, AND FORGIVING ONE ANOTHER,
IF ANYONE HAS A COMPLAINT AGAINST
ANOTHER; EVEN AS CHRIST
FORGAVE YOU, SO YOU
ALSO MUST DO.

- *Colossians 3:12, 13* -

GENTLENESS IN PRACTICE

- **In exhibiting forgiveness** – If we are going to forgive people, we need to do it in a spirit of gentleness
- We are giving up our right to be angry and we are giving up our right for retribution

GENTLENESS IN PRACTICE

- **In exhibiting forgiveness** – A Spirit controlled person will be able to do this by the grace of God!

GENTLENESS IN PRACTICE

- **Instructing others**

Those who oppose him he must gently instruct, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth, and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will.

2 Timothy 2:25-26



GENTLENESS IN PRACTICE

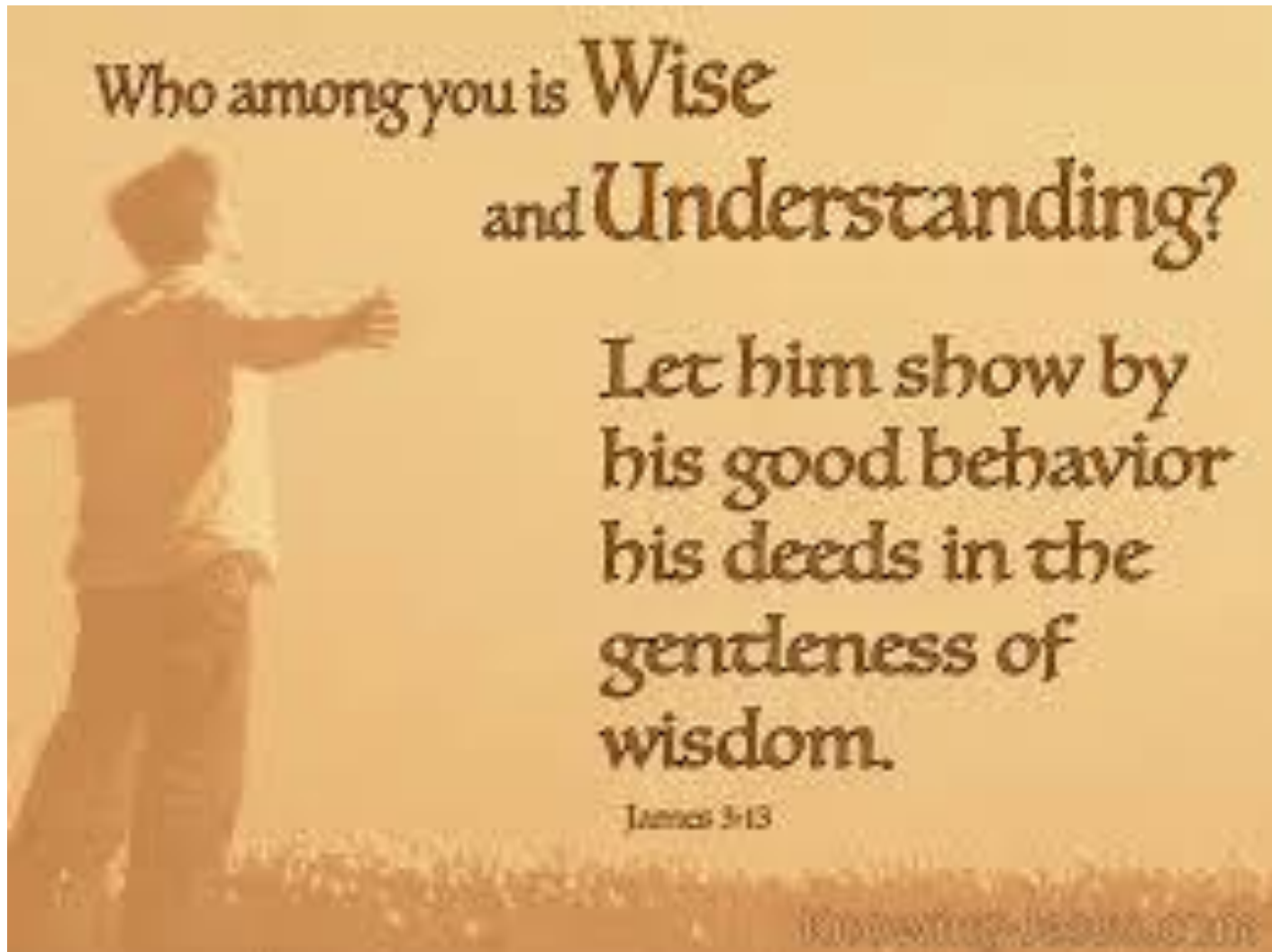
- **Instructing others** – If we are going to teach people about Jesus, we need to be gentle
- We need to realize that everyone is in a different spot in the growth process

GENTLENESS IN PRACTICE

- **Instructing others** – If we steamroll over people who need instruction, we will never get them to listen to us

GENTLENESS IN PRACTICE

- In general behaviour



GENTLENESS IN PRACTICE

- **In general behaviour** – In everything we do, we should strive to display a gentle spirit

NEXT

SELF-CONTROL