



Believe

Week 29

Gentleness

How do you define
gentleness?

Oxford Dictionary:

1.

1. The quality of being kind, tender, or mild-mannered.

'Michael was admired for his gentleness and tolerance'

2. Softness of action or effect; lightness.

'the gentleness of his touch'

Baker's Evangelical
Dictionary of Biblical
Theology:

*Sensitivity of disposition
and kindness of behavior,
founded on strength and
prompted by love.*

Paul uses two Greek words for
gentleness

epieikeia-a thoughtful,
considerate and decent outlook

prautes-mild medication or easy
on the stomach. This word is
also used in reference to a tamed
animal (controlled strength)

Question:

Are you known as
someone that raises their
voice?

What are some of the
symptoms of someone that is
not gentle?

- Uptight
- Tense
- Stressed Out
- Short Fused
- Loud Mouthed
- Rude

Do you know any VDPs,
"Very Draining People?"

They're the kind who say
things that set you on edge,
& you're convinced that they
enjoy doing it?

Does it take strength to be
gentle around them?

Are you a VDP?

Ask yourself-If you had plans with someone would they be dreading the time with you or excited about the visit?

Gentleness

Do you think society
correlates gentleness with
strength?

What about gentleness with
masculinity?

Gentleness Is an
Expected Component of
our Lives

2 Timothy 2: 24-26

And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful.

Opponents must be gently instructed, 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.

What is the hope we have when we are gentle that is described in the passage in 2 Timothy that we just read?

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escape from the trap of the
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captive to do his will.

Our Gentleness in speaking
Truth gives us hope that God
will use us to bring others:

1. To repentance
2. To knowledge of the truth
3. To their senses
4. Out of the trap of the devil

Does it take strength to speak
the Truth in Gentleness to
those that oppose you or
oppose Christ?

Titus 3: 1-2

Remind the people to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready to do whatever is good, to slander no one, to be peaceable and considerate, and always to be gentle toward everyone.

Who is Paul reminding us that we are to be gentle toward in the passage we just read?

Does it take strength to be gentle when others are being hostile toward you?

Our Best Example of Gentleness Is Our Lord

2 Corinthians 10: 1 (NASB)

“Now I, Paul, myself urge
you by the meeekness and
gentleness of Christ

4240 [e]

prautētos

πραΰτητος

meeekness

N-GFS

2532 [e]

kai

καὶ

and

Conj

1932 [e]

epieikeias

ἐπιεικείας

gentleness

N-GFS

Gentleness vs. Meekness

Both involve your power
under control

Gentleness vs. Meekness

Both involve your power
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Meekness = power controlled

Gentleness vs. Meekness

Both involve your power
under control

Meekness = power controlled

Gentleness = power
controlled to benefit another

Gentleness vs. Meekness

What are some examples of Jesus demonstrating meekness and gentleness?

John 8: 1-11

1 Peter 3: 15

But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. 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

Matthew 26: 67

Then they spit in his face and struck him with their fists. Others slapped him and said, "Prophecy to us, Messiah. Who hit you?"

Matthew 27: 39-43

Those who passed by hurled insults at him, shaking their heads and saying, "You who are going to destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself!"

Come down from the cross, if you are the Son of God!” In the same way the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the elders mocked him. “He saved others,” they said, “but he can’t save himself!

He's the king of Israel! Let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God. Let God rescue him now if he wants him, for he said, 'I am the Son of God.'"

Luke 23: 34

Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."

God is Gentle in His Power!

Isaiah 40: 10

See, the Sovereign Lord
comes with power,
and he rules with a mighty
arm.

See, his reward is with him,
and his recompense
accompanies him.

Isaiah 40: 15

Surely the nations are like a
drop in a bucket;
they are regarded as dust
on the scales;
he weighs the islands as
though they were fine dust.

Isaiah 40: 25-26

“To whom will you compare me? Or who is my equal?”

says the Holy One.

Lift up your eyes and look to
the heavens:

Who created all these?

He who brings out the starry
host one by one
and calls forth each of
them by name.

Because of his great power
and mighty strength,
not one of them is missing.

Isaiah 40: 11

He tends his flock like a
shepherd: He gathers the
lambs in his arms
and carries them close to his
heart;
he gently leads those that
have young.

Psalm 18: 35 (NASB)

You have also given me the
shield of Your salvation,
And Your right hand upholds
me;
And Your gentleness makes
me great.

Philippians 4: 5

Let your gentleness be
evident to all. The Lord is
near.

- NKJV - gentleness
- ESB - reasonableness
- ASV - forbearance
- NAS - gentle spirit
- ISV - gracious attitude
- NLT - considerateness
- KJV - moderation
- YLT - forbearance
- DRB - modesty
- BBE - gentle behavior

Idea is that a gentle spirit:

- yields to others' preferences
- is bighearted and reasonable
- gives off warmth
- is gracious
- is pleasant

Who should see our
gentleness?

Everyone!

Why?

The Lord is at hand!

The Lord is at hand

A translation of the Syriac
“Maran atha” of
1 Corinthians 16:22—
referring to the rapture being
near or at hand

1 Corinthians 16: 22 (NASB)

If anyone does not love the
Lord, he is to be accursed.

Maran atha.

1 Corinthians 16: 22 (NIV)

If anyone does not love the
Lord, let that person be
cursed! Come, Lord!

Are men called to be Gentle?

1 Thessalonians 2: 5-8 (NASB)

For we never came with
flattering speech, as you
know, nor with a pretext for
greed—God is witness— nor
did we seek glory from men,
either from you or from others.

even though as apostles of
Christ we might have
asserted our authority. But
we proved to be gentle
among you, as a nursing
mother tenderly cares for her
own children.

Having so fond an affection
for you, we were well-
pleased to impart to you
not only the gospel of God
but also our own lives,
because you had become
very dear to us.

Gentleness in Men?

Men, stay tough and tender

Daddy's Hands Lyrics

I remember daddy's hands
folded silently in prayer
and reaching out to hold me
when I had a nightmare
you could read quite a story in
the calluses and lines
years of work and worry had left
their mark behind

Daddy's hands were soft and
kind when I was cryin

Daddy's hands were hard as
steel when I'd done wrong

Daddy's hands weren't always
gentle but I've come to
understand

there was always love in daddy's
hands

Tips on Becoming Gentle

- Decide to Care More about People
- Pray-Ask God for Help to Change
- Pray Fervently for Others
- Do Good for Others
- Study the Word-Memorize
Philippians 4:5

Let your gentleness
be evident to all. The
Lord is near.

Is it possible to be gentle to others when they are not being gentle to you?

Where do we find the power for this gentleness?

John 15: 5

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."