

"Gentleness"

Matthew 11:25-30

In a world that respects only:

Winners	vs.	Losers
Powerful	vs.	Weakness
Aggressiveness	vs.	Doormats

Question?

Who do I really want to be like? Jesus!!!

Look at what Jesus offers:

Great news for those worn struggling with...

- The hardships of life
- The uncertainty of the future
- The attempt to do good

Jesus offers us the safety of Himself:

- A gentle hand
- A humble heart
- A strong back

The Christ-like qualities of gentleness:

- It requires tremendous strength
- It abides in total humility
- It expresses full acceptance
- It offers complete safety

The "home saving" fruit of gentleness:

- A safe place
- A growing place
- An empowering place

How can this fruit grow in my home?

- Depend fully on God's grace
- Die to my sinful nature
- Choose daily life in the Spirit
- Nurture growth of the Spirit's fruit

What is keeping gentleness out of my life?

25 At that time Jesus said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. 26 Yes, Father, for this was your good pleasure.

27 "All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

28 "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. 29 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. 30 For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

Ephesians 4:1-2

4:1 As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. 2 Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.

Philippians 4:4-6

4 Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! 5 Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near.

1 Peter 3:15-16

15 But in your hearts set apart 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, 16 keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.

Galatians 5:13-26

13 You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love. 14 The entire law is summed up in a single command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." 15 If you keep on biting and devouring each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.

16 So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. 17 For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want. 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under law.

19 The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; 20 idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions 21 and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is

love

joy

peace

patience

kindness

goodness

faithfulness

gentleness

self-control

Against such things there is no law. 24 Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires. 25 Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. 26 Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.

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SERMON NOTES

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PASTOR PHILIP C ROGERS
Middletown Church of the Nazarene
Middletown, Indiana

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sermon available at www.middletownnaz.com