

July 27, 2025

Series: Fruit of the Spirit

Sermon: The Strength Of Gentleness - Galatians 5:22-23

By: Sarah Newby

Gentleness -an expression of the fruit of the Spirit, that is God's power under control, strength and wrapped in humility.

Intro –

Cleansing the Temple: Matthew 21:12-17, Mark 11:15-19, Luke 19:45-48, and John 2:13-16

Mark 3:5, Matthew 19:25-26

Gentleness:

- 1) The Power Position of the Redeemed
 - a) Galatians 5:22-23
 - b) Jesus' Example of Gentleness
 - i) John 2:13-16
 - ii) To Serve -Matthew 20:28
 - iii) To Protect - Proverbs 31:8-9
 - iv) Humility - Philippians 4:5, James 4:6
 - c) Counterfeit Use of Power
- 2) Jesus - The Gentle King - Matthew 11:29, Isaiah 42:3
- 3) In Restoration - Galatians 6:1
- 4) In Teaching - 2 Timothy 2:25
- 5) A Witness to the World - 1 Peter 3:15

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Fruit of the Spirit – Galatians 5:22-23, modified from Timothy Kellor

Love – An unconditional love and affection that selflessly serves others for their good.

Opposite: Selfish affection or fear which results in abuse.

Counterfeit: Selfish affection where you love someone for what they give you physically or how they make you feel emotionally.

Joy – Taking a deep delight in God himself and satisfaction in your life regardless of outer circumstances.

Opposite: Hopelessness and despair in life

Counterfeit: Happiness or elation because of favorable circumstances that creates mood swings.

Peace – An inner stillness and confidence in God's wisdom and control in life, even when facing trouble.

Opposite: Anxiety and worry

Counterfeit: Apathy or not caring either way about something

Patience – The capacity to endure opposition or difficulty without overreacting because one trusts God to handle it.

Opposite: Resentment toward God or others which causes us to react to them.

Counterfeit: Holding them in contempt or just indifference

Kindness – A compassionate and humble heart that meets the needs of others. Having a deep inner security.

Opposite: Envy or resentment which leaves us unable to care

Counterfeit: Doing good for others so we can feel proud of who we are and more acceptable to God.

Goodness (i.e. integrity) – Zealously doing what is needed for the good of others. This even includes correcting someone, but with loving wisdom.

Opposite: Being truthful but not loving in our actions towards others.

Counterfeit: Doing things to make ourselves look better

Faithfulness – Being utterly reliable and true to our word because we are driven by principle. This produces loyal commitments.

Opposite: Commitments based only on immediate self-interests. A fair-weather friend.

Counterfeit: Being loving but not truthful, because of an unwillingness to confront or challenge others.

Gentleness – The right use of power for the benefit of others. Not needing to force our way in life but using self-restraint. Strength wrapped in humility.

Opposite: Self-centered use of power.

Counterfeit: Inferiority: self-absorption, self-consciousness

Self-Control – The power the Holy Spirit gives us to master godly things instead of giving into human impulses and desires that enslave us.

Opposite: Impulsive or uncontrolled reaction to things.

Counterfeit: Exercising our own willpower out of pride or the need to feel in control (Col. 2:23).

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