



GENTLENESS (pt. 2)

If you have not reviewed last week's study guide, I encourage you to do so now. We talked about 3 ways God wants to bring your strength under the control of the Holy Spirit. Review these first before proceeding.

He does this by helping you become...

1. more understanding and less demanding.
2. more gracious and less judgmental.
3. tender without surrender.

3 More Ways the Holy Spirit is Trying to Get Your Strength Under His Control

ICE BREAKERS

- ◇ Can a German shepherd be gentle?
- ◇ Can an aircraft carrier be gentle?
- ◇ Can a human being be gentle?



Gentleness = "Strength under control"

READ Galatians 3:22-23

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,
²³ gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

- ◇ So, are you gentle?
- ◇ Can you be gentle one moment and not gentle the next? Why?
- ◇ Can a non-believer be gentle? Why or why not?

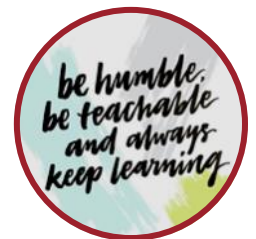


REMEMBER: The Holy Spirit is working over-time in the life of a believer to produce the fruit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, GENTLENESS, and self-control. The Holy Spirit produces it! We still must choose to display it!

He wants to help you...

1. Be **TEACHABLE**, not **UNREACHABLE!**

- ◇ If someone corrects you, how do you handle it? Are you teachable or unreachable?



READ Proverbs 13:18

¹⁸ Whoever disregards discipline comes to poverty and shame, but whoever heeds correction is honored.

- ◇ In your own words, what is this verse saying?
- ◇ Why is it important to be teachable?
- ◇ Ever met a know-it-all? How do they make you feel?

◇ If we stop learning, do we stop growing?

◇ If we stop growing,
do we start dying?

◇ Who are you willing to
learn from?

◇ Do you have all the answers?

◇ Do you think gentleness is being able to
admit when you are wrong?



2. Be an ACTOR, not a REACTOR!

NOTE: Actor = Someone who initiates action

READ Romans 12:21

**²¹ Do not be overcome by
evil, but overcome evil with
good.**



◇ How is this action over re-
action?

◇ When someone hurts you, are you an
actor or a reactor?

◇ Can we be an actor on our own power?

◇ How about with the power of the Holy
Spirit?

3. Be RESPECTFUL!

READ 1 Peter 3:15

**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,**



◇ What should we do with gentleness and
respect?

◇ Are you gentle and
respectful when you
share the Gospel?

◇ Can your attitude
speak louder than your
words?



NOTE: Communication Study

- 7 % = Words we speak
- 55% = Non-verbals (body language)
- 38% = Tone of voice

◇ What does this study say to you?

◇ What do the words
“Come here, I love you”
say if your face is angry
and your fist is drawn
back?



NOTE: People need to hear the Good News,
but our attitudes can keep people from
receiving it!

APPLICATION:

◇ What do you need to do to let gentleness
flow from your life?

◇ In what relationship
do you find it hard to be
gentle?

◇ Ask God to help you!



gentleness
power under control
galatians 5:22-23