



The Nature of Real Church: Gentleness

Greg Wendschlag August 21, 2022

*"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, goodness, faithfulness, **gentleness** and self-control. Against such things there is no law."* Gal. 5:22-23

Gentle: characterized by being kind, humble, mild and even-tempered.

How to Develop Gentleness in Your Life

1. Spend time with Jesus and ask Him to give to you His nature.

"Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion! Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and having salvation, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey." Zech. 9:9

"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." Matt. 11:29

- When you pray, ask God to remind you of His gentleness to you. Then give that to others.

2. Check your attitude before you act.

"Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made Himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to death--even death on a cross!" Phil 2:5-11

"Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near." Phil. 4:5

- Do you have a reputation of being gentle? Look for someone to serve in humble gentleness.

3. Check your words before you speak.

"A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger." Prov.15:1

"Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry." James 1:19

- In every interaction, find a way to say something positive and genuinely encouraging.

4. Measure your response before you retaliate.

"Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love." Eph 4:2

"He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he who rules his own spirit, than he who captures a city." Prov. 16:32

- A reactive person is controlled by others. Ask God to help you be controlled by the Holy Spirit.