Blessed: Attitude #3 - Live With Powerful Gentleness!

September 21, 2018

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Blessed: 8 Attitudes With Promise! Pt. 3

Matthew 5:5, *Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.*

SYNONYMS: Meekness - patience, long-suffering, gentleness, mildness, peacefulness, forbearance.

Galatians 5:22, 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.

Michael Wilkins - "The 'gentle' or meek are those who are powerful, but who have the maturity and grace to use their power for constructive rather than destructive purposes."

Andrew Murray - "Christ is the humility of God embodied in human nature; the Eternal Love humbling Itself, clothing Itself in the garb of meekness and gentleness, to win and serve and save us."

Charles Spurgeon - "The Lord is slow to anger," because He is GREAT IN POWER. He is truly great in power Who hath power over Himself."

Warren Wiersbe - "Meekness is power under control."

Stuart Weber - "Gentleness is strength under control"

-Meekness/Gentleness Is <u>CONTROLLED</u> Strength And Power How Gentleness Improves My Life:

1 - Gentleness Makes Me MORE LIKE JESUS

Matthew 11:28, "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."

2 - Gentleness Neutralizes My **ENEMIES**

- **2 Timothy 2:24**, And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful. 25 Opponents must be **gently instructed**, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth.
- 1 Corinthians 4:12, We work hard with our own hands. When we are cursed, we bless; when we are persecuted, we endure it; 13 when we are slandered, we answer kindly.
- **Titus 2:6**, Similarly, encourage the young men to be self-controlled. 7 In everything set them an example by doing what is good. In your teaching show integrity, seriousness 8 and soundness of speech that cannot be condemned, so that those who oppose you may be ashamed because they have nothing bad to say about us.

3 - Gentleness Increases My <u>INFLUENCE</u>

Proverbs 16:21, The wise in heart are called discerning, and gracious words promote instruction.

Proverbs 11:16, A kindhearted woman **gains honor**, but ruthless men gain only wealth.

4 - Gentleness Reduces <u>CONFLICT</u> In My Life

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

Ecclesiastes 10:4, If a ruler's anger rises against you, do not leave your post; **calmness** can lay great offenses to rest.

Colossians 3:12, Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, **gentleness** and patience. 13 Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

5 - Gentleness Improves My LOOKS

- **1 Timothy 6:11**, But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and **gentleness**.
- **1 Peter 3:3**, Your beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as elaborate hairstyles and the wearing of gold jewelry or fine clothes. 4 Rather, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a **gentle** and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God's sight.

6 - Gentleness Publicizes My LOVE FOR OTHERS

Colossians 3:19, Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them.

Ephesians 6:4, Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the **training and instruction** of the Lord.

7 - Gentleness Improves My Witness To <u>SKEPTICS AND</u> UNBELIEVERS

- 1 Peter 3:15, ... 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.
- **Titus 3:1**, Remind the people to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready to do whatever is good, 2 to slander no one, to be peaceable and considerate, and always to be **gentle** toward everyone.

Putting This Message Into Practice This Week:

- -If Someone Fails Me, I Won't Be Hypercritical Or Judgmental (Galatians 6:1; Ephesians. 4:32)
- -If Someone Opposes Or Argues With Me, I Will Be Kindhearted And Calm

(Romans 14:1-4)

- -If Someone Is Serving Me, I Won't Be Difficult Or Demanding (Philippians 2:1-4)
- -Join others in hearing Daily Devotions about loving God with all your heart from the Pastor at:

www. johnmarkcaton.com

Instagram: @PastorJohnMark Facebook: /johnmark.caton

-If you want to learn more about Home and Life Groups, or have a question about Cottonwood Creek, stop by the Connect Wall in the Atrium.