

CULTIVATING *Character*

Message 8 Gentleness

J.C. Thompson
May 27, 2018

Outline

► *But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, **gentleness**...*

Galatians 5:22-23a (NLT)

Gentleness is _____

under _____ **for the**

_____ **of others.**

Since God chose you to be the holy people He loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.

Colossians 3:12 (NLT)

Gentleness is...

1. _____ **first in** _____.
(Psalm 18:35; Isaiah 40:10,15,25-26; Matthew 11:29)

2. _____ **in us through** _____.
(Ephesians 4:2; Colossians 3:12; James 1:2)

3. _____ **towards** _____.
(Proverbs 15:1; 25:15; Galatians 6:1; Philippians 4:5)

Answers: strength, restraint, benefit **1.** Found, God **2.** Fastened, salvation **3.** Focused, others
Resource Information: Unless otherwise noted, outline and onscreen verses are from NLT version (New Living Translation) of *The Holy Bible*. C/R, if noted, refers to a 'cross reference' of Scripture verse(s). Today's outline and discussion guide are available to mobile device users through the Brookwood Church app available through your favorite app store.

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► Discussion Guide

Use this guide with friends or on your own to pursue a deeper relationship with Jesus. For additional Bible Study tools, guides and devotionals, check out: biblegateway.com, bible.com, youversion.com and blueletterbible.org.

Conversation Starter

If you're using this guide with others, ask the following question, then pause to allow group members time to reflect before responding.

When you hear the word *gentleness*, what thoughts or images first pop into your mind?

Personal Reflection/Group Discussion

Read [Isaiah 40:9-15](#).

1. What words and phrases from this passage describe God's *power*?
2. What words and phrases describe God's *tenderness*?
3. What would it be like if God's gentleness wasn't both *powerful* and *tender*?
4. How have you experienced God's gentleness?

In Sunday's message, gentleness was defined as:

STRENGTH under **RESTRAINT** for the **BENEFIT** of others.

5. How do the following passages demonstrate *strength under restraint for the benefit of others*?
 - a. [Mark 4:35-41](#)
 - b. [Matthew 12:18-21](#)
 - c. [Galatians 6:1-3](#)
6. Why do you think people sometimes assume that a gentle person is also a weak person?
7. What does the world tend to look for in a powerful person?

8. In what situations do gentle words mean the most to you?
9. What practical steps can you take to be more gentle with others?
10. What's your biggest takeaway from this week's teaching?

Nothing is so strong as gentleness.
Nothing is so gentle as real strength.
— Ralph W. Sockman

Soul Training

Using a note card, journal or piece of paper, write out the definition we've been using for gentleness: *strength under restraint for the benefit of others*. Carry this definition with you throughout the week and ask God to cultivate true gentleness in you.

Memory Verse

Since God chose you to be the holy people He loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.

[Colossians 3:12 \(NLT\)](#)

Daily Reading

Day 1: [Isaiah 40:9-15](#)

Day 4: [Galatians 6:1-3](#)

Day 2: [Mark 4:35-41](#)

Day 5: [James 3:13-18](#)

Day 3: [Matthew 12:18-21](#)

Prepare for Next Sunday

Next Sunday, June 3, we'll finish our series *Cultivating Character* with a closer look at SELF-CONTROL. To prepare for the message, prayerfully read: [Proverbs 16:32](#); [25:28](#); [1 Corinthians 9:24-27](#); [Titus 2:11-14](#).

If you've never experienced God's grace and forgiveness, we'd love the opportunity to talk with you about a life-changing relationship with Jesus. Email mark.taylor@brookwoodchurch.org or call [864.688.8211](tel:864.688.8211).



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