

Growing in the Character of Christ – Gentleness

July 3, 2022

Text: Philippians 4:5; Matthew 5:5; Galatians 5:22

The Meaning of Gentleness

- Gentleness means to approach others, including our enemies, with a _____ and _____ attitude.
- Gentleness means not using _____ to get our own way.
- Gentleness means being in control of our _____, choosing to respond _____ toward others.
- Gentleness means not being overly impressed by a sense of our own _____.

Jesus and Gentleness

- Gentleness and Temple _____.
- What was Jesus' life _____ by?

Our Struggle with Gentleness

- Our society conditions us from childhood for _____ and _____.
- The church is not _____ to this societal pathology.

The Development of Gentleness

- This partnership begins, continues, and ends with _____.
- We can also partner with the Holy Spirit by hanging out with those of "_____."

Life Enrichment

What about today's teaching challenged, disturbed, or encouraged you?

- In the story that opened today's sermon, are you presently more like the owner of the horses or John Wooden's father? Why?
- What are some examples of gentleness that have deeply impacted your life?
- Of the four aspects of gentleness, which do you find easiest? Which do you find most difficult? Why?
- Why do you think Jesus' life was *not* characterized by brute force, coercion, and domination? What does this tell us about life in His family? What does this tell us about how we are to relate to others?
- Why do you think our society teaches and believes that force and pride are the best way to solve problems and to get ahead?
- What are some ways you plan on partnering with the Holy Spirit to develop gentleness this week?
- How can/will you attempt to apply Luke 14:12-14 as a part of your strategy?