

# Gentleness

"Character Counts" - Week Six

# I. Jesus Is Gentle - Matthew 11:29

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"I am gentle and lowly in heart"

# II. Jesus is Gentle with Us - Matthew 11:28-30

# Matthew 11:28-30 -

"Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

"What helium does to a balloon, Jesus' yoke does to his followers. We are buoyed along in life by his endless gentleness and supremely accessible lowliness. He doesn't simply meet us at our place of need; he lives in our place of need. He never tires of sweeping us in to his tender embrace."

# ~Dane Ortlund

## Hebrews 5:2 -

He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward.

"Jesus does not throw his hands up in the air when he engages sinners. He is calm, tender, soothing, restrained. He deals with us gently...Jesus deals gently and only gently with all sinners wo come to him, irrespective of their particular offense and just how heinous it is...He gets down with us, he puts his arm around us, he deals with us in the way that is just what we need."

#### ~Dane Ortlund

## Matthew 12:20 -

A bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out.

# A. Gentle Leadership

- Isaiah 40:11, I Timothy 3:2-3

# Isaiah 40:11 -

He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

# III. Ways we Reflect the Gentleness of Jesus A. Gentle Leadership

## I Thessalonians 2:7 -

We were gentle among you, like a nursing mother taking care of her own children.

# III. Ways we Reflect the Gentleness of Jesus A. Gentle Leadership

# I Timothy 3:2-3 -

An Elder must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money.

- **B.** Gentle Community
  - Ephesians 4:1-3, Colossians 3:12

# **Ephesians 4:1-3 -**

I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

- **B.** Gentle Community
  - Ephesians 4:1-3, Colossians 3:12

## Colossians 3:12 -

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.

# C. Gentle Conflict - II Timothy 2:24-25

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The Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil, correcting his opponents with gentleness, that God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth.

#### E. Gentle Witness

- Titus 3:1-2, I Peter 3:15

## Titus 3:1-2 -

Remind them to be submissive to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work, to speak evil of no one, to avoid quarreling, to be gentle, and to show perfect courtesy toward all people.

#### E. Gentle Witness

- Titus 3:1-2, I Peter 3:15

#### I Peter 3:15 -

In your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect.

# III. Ways we Reflect the Gentleness of Jesus E. Gentle Witness

#### Matthew 12:20 -

A bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out, till he leads justice to victory.

# Philippians 4:5 -

Let your gentleness be known to all! The Lord is near.