

# Fruit of the Spirit



*Gentleness*

# Fruit of the Spirit

- ❖ Galatians 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

# Fruit of the Spirit

❖ Love

❖ Joy

❖ Peace

❖ Patience

❖ Kindness

❖ Goodness

❖ Faithfulness

❖ Gentleness

# Fruit of the Spirit

- ❖ Some approach the “Fruit of the Spirit” as if it should be considered “Fruit(S) of the Spirit.
- ❖ As has been mentioned more than once through this study...
- ❖ It is the “Fruit of the Spirit”



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# Fruit of the Spirit

- ❖ When we dissect the Fruit of the Spirit, we see its many parts, working together as a whole.
- ❖ 2 Peter 1:3-11
- ❖ As with the qualities of spiritual growth, the fruit of the Spirit must likewise be growing in all facets continually.
- ❖ Focusing on just one aspect of the fruit may result in lack of growth in some areas. We must continually grow in all of these qualities.



# Fruit of the Spirit

- ❖ Gentleness - what is gentleness in the context of this study?
- ❖ עֲנָוָה is the Hebrew word translated - anavah
- ❖ Anavah is translated gentleness, help, humility, and meekness
- ❖ Psalms 18:35 - God's Gentleness

# Gentleness

- ❖ epieikeia - equity, mildness, clemency
- ❖ Paul uses this word in 2 Corinthians 10:1 - Now I, Paul, myself urge you by the meekness and *gentleness* of Christ—I who am meek when face to face with you, but bold toward you when absent!
- ❖ The usage in this passage applies more aptly to an idea of clemency, of mildness - that is the gentle forgiving nature of Christ that Paul emulated.

# Gentleness

πραυτῆς - mildness, humility, meekness

In the context of our focus verse, Galatians 5:23, gentleness is the growing virtue we develop which allows us to show humility in a world of arrogance, to be mild in the face of worldly fierceness, and to be meek when surrounded by a crowd of worldly, overbearing people.

# Gentleness

- ❖ Paul continues this idea in the very next chapter
- ❖ Galatians 6:1-10 Brethren, even if anyone is caught in any trespass, you who are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness; each one looking to yourself, so that you too will not be tempted. 2 Bear one another's burdens, and thereby fulfill the law of Christ. 3 For if anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself. 4 But each one must examine his own work, and then he will have reason for boasting in regard to himself alone, and not in regard to another. 5 For each one will bear his own load. 6 The one who is taught the word is to share all good things with the one who teaches him. 7 Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap. 8 For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. 9 Let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we will reap if we do not grow weary. 10 So then, while we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, and especially to those who are of the household of the faith.

# Gentleness

- ❖ “The spirit of the world gloats over sin; the Spirit of Christ leads us to restore the sinner. Our first thought should never be of revenge or contempt, or of the adjustment of our own claims, but rather of how to help our fallen brother to regain his old place in the love of God. The memory of our own temptations and failures should make us very pitiful and tender. The Apostle does not speak, in this place, of premeditated sin, but of that by which we are entrapped and taken unawares.” - F.B. Meyer



# Gentleness

- ❖ Paul “discussed” gentleness with the Corinthians
- ❖ 1 Corinthians 4:18-21
- ❖ This in the context of Paul not “sparing the rod” in the very next chapter due to the Corinthians allowing premeditated sin to remain in their presence by a member of the church.
- ❖ 2 Corinthians 10:1-11 - here our word is translated meekness, and as we looked at before the word gentleness is the first definition - clemency
- ❖ Paul defends himself against those accusing him of being false.

# Gentleness

Paul admonished Timothy to grow in gentleness as well

1 Timothy 6:9-11 - an admonishment to pursue spiritual growth and fruit of the Spirit

Paul taught Timothy that the Lord's bond-servant must be gentle when correcting those in opposition.

2 Timothy 2:24-26 - This instruction was important for Timothy and equally important for us today when spreading the Word in a world full of stubborn opposition.

# Gentleness

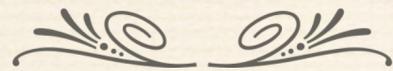
- ❖ James reminds us how important gentleness is as a fruit to be nurtured and grown in the wisdom of the word.
- ❖ James 3:13-18 Wisdom is gentle and pursues peace.



# Gentleness

- ❖ Finally, Peter reminded Christians in the first century how important it is to be gentle in the face of suffering, when defending your faith.
- ❖ 1 Peter 3:13-17 Peter tells Christians to always be ready to tell those in your world, why you have hope, in a gentle and respectful even God-fearing way.

# Fruit of the Spirit Gentleness



*We invite you to understand the hope that is in  
Christ,  
His yoke is easy and His burden is light.*

