

Christian Characteristics

Gentleness

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1. Define Gentleness

Gentleness is a character that approaches others with care and thoughtfulness, particularly during challenging moments.

It encompasses kindness, patience, and compassion, even when encountering anger or disagreement.

As a fruit of the Holy Spirit, gentleness is shown through acts such as responding calmly, teaching with empathy and helping restore those who have stumbled, with understanding.²

1. Define Gentleness

Key aspects of biblical gentleness:

- a. Mildness and tenderness
- b. Humility and meekness
- c. Patience and forbearance
- d. Kindness and compassion
- e. Strength and self-control

2. Share two verses in the Bible concerning “Gentleness” and explain the verses.

Isaiah 40:11

11 Like a shepherd He will tend His flock,
In His arm He will gather the lambs
And carry *them* in His bosom;
He will gently lead the nursing ewes.

2. Share two verses in the Bible concerning “Gentleness” and explain the verses.

Titus 3:1-2

1 Remind them to be subject to rulers, to authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good deed,

2 to malign no one, to be peaceable, gentle, showing every consideration for all men.

3. Provide an example of someone who exhibited “Gentleness” in the Old Testament.

Ruth 2:14-16

14 At mealtime Boaz said to her, “Come here, that you may eat of the bread and dip your piece of bread in the vinegar.” So she sat beside the reapers; and he served her roasted grain, and she ate and was satisfied and had some left.

15 When she rose to glean, Boaz commanded his servants, saying, “Let her glean even among the sheaves, and do not insult her.

16 “Also you shall purposely pull out for her *some grain* from the bundles and leave *it* that she may glean, and do not rebuke her.”

3. Provide an example of someone who exhibited “Gentleness” in the Old Testament.

Boaz shows kindness and gentleness towards Ruth, a foreign woman working in his fields.

He instructed his workers to leave extra grain for her and ensured her safety and well-being, demonstrating compassion and concern for the needy.

4. Provide an example of someone who exhibited “Gentleness” in the New Testament.

2 Cor. 10:1

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!

4. Provide an example of someone who exhibited “Gentleness” in the New Testament.

Phil. 4:5

5 Let your gentle *spirit* be known to all men.

The Lord is near.

1 Thessalonians 2:7

7 But we proved to be gentle among you, as a nursing *mother* tenderly cares for her own children.

5. How do Christians reflect a Christ-Like attitude through “Gentleness”?

A Christ-like attitude of gentleness involves demonstrating kindness, patience and understanding in all interactions, especially during disagreements or when facing challenges.

It's about choosing to respond with compassion and empathy, even when it's difficult.

Christians should allow the Holy Spirit to guide their actions and words.

5. How do Christians reflect a Christ-Like attitude through “Gentleness”?

Christians reflect a Christ-like attitude in “Gentleness” by:

- A. Practicing humility and self-awareness.
- B. Cultivating patience and forbearance.
- C. Speaking with kindness and respect.
- D. Demonstrating compassion and empathy.
- E. Praying for God's guidance and strength.

6. How do you grow in “Gentleness” and seek opportunities to demonstrate “Gentleness” to others?

To grow in gentleness a Christian should focus on thoughtfulness, empathy and self-control.

Prioritize listening, understanding others' perspectives and managing your own emotional reactions.

Practice kindness in your words and actions and extend that kindness to yourself as well.

6. How do you grow in “Gentleness” and seek opportunities to demonstrate “Gentleness” to others?

To be gentle with others involves being considerate, empathetic and respectful in your interactions, avoiding harshness or cruelty.

It means showing kindness, patience and a willingness to understand others' perspectives.

6. How do you grow in “Gentleness” and seek opportunities to demonstrate “Gentleness” to others?

A Christian demonstrates “Gentleness” to others by:

- A. Communicating mindfully.
- B. Showing kindness and compassion.
- C. Respecting boundaries and the needs of others.