

STRENGTHENED WITH A GENTLE, CHRISTLIKE SPIRIT

MCBC Men's Sunday School
August 25, 2024

MEN^{WITH}
STRENGTHENED
HANDS



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Philippians 4:5 Let your gentle *spirit* be known to all men.
The Lord is near.

The Meaning of "Gentle Spirit"

1 Timothy 3:1–3 1 It is a trustworthy statement: if any man aspires to the office of overseer, it is a fine work he desires to do. 2 An overseer, then, must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, prudent, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, 3 not addicted to wine or pugnacious, but **gentle**, peaceable, free from the love of money.

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.

James 3:13–18 13 Who among you is wise and understanding? Let him show by his good behavior his deeds in the **gentleness** of wisdom. 14 But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your heart, do not be arrogant and so lie against the truth. 15 This wisdom is not that which comes down from above, but is earthly, natural, demonic. 16 For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every evil thing. 17 But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, **gentle**, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, unwavering, without hypocrisy. 18 And the seed whose fruit is righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

1 Peter 2:18 Servants, be submissive to your masters with all respect, not only to those who are good and gentle, but also to those who are unreasonable.

Acts 24:4 But, that I may not weary you any further, I beg you to grant us, by your **kindness**, a brief hearing.

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!

Lexical definitions:

- **Noun:** the quality of making allowances despite facts that might suggest reason for a different reaction, **clemency, gentleness, graciousness, courtesy, indulgence, tolerance**
- **Adjective:** not insisting on every right of letter of law or custom, **yielding, gentle, kind, courteous, tolerant**

Synonyms (different Greek words, often translated the same into English):

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Matthew 5:5 Blessed are the **gentle**, for they shall inherit the earth.

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Colossians 3:12–13 12 So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, **gentleness** and patience; 13 bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you.

Synonyms (different Greek words, often translated the same into English):

1 Peter 3:15 but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with **gentleness** and reverence;

Synonyms (different Greek words, often translated the same into English):

1 Thessalonians 2:6–7 6 nor did we seek glory from men, either from you or from others, even though as apostles of Christ we might have asserted our authority. 7 But we proved to be **gentle** among you, as a nursing mother tenderly cares for her own children.

Synonyms (different Greek words, often translated the same into English):

2 Timothy 2:24–26 24 The Lord's bond-servant must not be quarrelsome, but be **kind** to all, able to teach, patient when wronged, 25 with **gentleness** correcting those who are in opposition, if perhaps God may grant them repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth, 26 and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, having been held captive by him to do his will.

- Gentleness is in contrast to bitter jealousy, selfish ambition, slanderous speech, and a quarrelsome spirit.
- Gentleness is associated with humility, patience, toleration of personal offenses, love, compassion, kindness, peaceableness, and considerateness in my treatment of other people.

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- “They are the meek, who are rarely and hardly provoked, but quickly and easily pacified; and who would rather forgive twenty injuries than revenge one, having the rule of their own spirits” (Matthew Henry).

The Mandate to Display a Gentle Spirit

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The Motivation to Display a Gentle Spirit

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Matthew 11:28–30 28 “Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. 29 “Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am **gentle** and humble in heart, and YOU WILL FIND REST FOR YOUR SOULS. 30 “For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.”

Titus 3:1–5 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 For we also once were foolish ourselves, disobedient, deceived, enslaved to various lusts and pleasures, spending our life in malice and envy, hateful, hating one another. 4 But when the kindness of God our Savior and His love for mankind appeared, 5 He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit,

“Spirit a little discomposed today. A mere trifle sometimes makes me insensible for a while both of my mercies, and my sins. Surely if I thought of either aright I could never complain or be displeased”
(John Newton, diary entry for 5 February 1765).

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1 Peter 2:23 and while being reviled, He did not revile in return; while suffering, He uttered no threats, but kept entrusting Himself to Him who judges righteously.



Galatians 6:1 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.

Galatians 5:22–23 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.