
The Fruit of Meekness (The Power to Submit)

The Fruit of the Holiness

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Sermon: The Fruit of the Holiness: The Fruit of Meekness (The Power to Submit)

New Series Messages: “The Fruit of the Holy Spirit II (Producers)”

- Galatians 5:22–23 (AV)²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, ²³ Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.
- **What’s the purpose of each element, and how do we produce and use them?**
- Sermon: The Fruit of Love (Conquering Hate)
- Sermon: The Fruit of Joy (The Strength of Life)
- Sermon: The Fruit of Peace (Keeping Your Heart)
- Sermon: The Fruit of Longsuffering (“Waiting” on the Lord)
- Sermon: The Fruit of Gentleness (Controlled Power)
- Sermon: The Fruit of Goodness (Overcoming Evil)
- Sermon: The Fruit of Faithfulness (The Power to Change Not)
 - Definition: The fidelity to swear to our own hurt and change not
 - Purpose: To Empower us so that we do not Consume Each Other
 - Produce: Faithfulness is produced when we Wait on the Lord through Hurt

Lesson Text

Philippians 2:4–11 (AV)⁴ Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others. ⁵ Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: ⁶ Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: ⁷ But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: ⁸ And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. ⁹ Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: ¹⁰ That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of *things* in heaven, and *things* in earth, and *things* under the earth; ¹¹ And *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Luke 22:39–42 (AV)³⁹ And he came out, and went, as he was wont, to the mount of Olives; and his disciples also followed him. ⁴⁰ And when he was at the place, he said unto them, **Pray that ye enter not into temptation.** ⁴¹ And he was withdrawn from them about a stone’s cast, and kneeled down, and prayed, ⁴² Saying, **Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done.**

Introduction

Today we continue to look at the third cluster of the Fruit of the Spirit (Faith, Meekness, and Temperance), which Deals with our Relationship with Ourselves.

Last week we looked at Faith or Faithfulness, today we will look at Meekness!

Have you ever been passed over, denied an opportunity or promotion and felt like maybe you should have spoken up more for yourself?

Or maybe you've felt walked on, humiliated, embarrassed, disgraced, or dishonored and felt like maybe you need to give these people a piece of your mind?

The desire to do this is built within us; however, it is opposite of the essence of Meekness.

Meekness conveys the idea of a listening ear to hear what God has to say; and then submitting to His will especially when it goes against ours.

Submission is not natural. We don't like submitting to each other, to our spouses, to our leaders because it makes us feel insignificant.

Is it our human nature to want to be important or significant; and the way we seek to obtain this is through being promoted, increased, exalted or glorified!

And herein lies the problem. When we attempt to elevate ourselves, it pushes God away; He literally resist that part of our nature. And so, the Holy Spirit produces its opposite, Meekness!

Meekness is the first cousin to Gentleness. Whereas Gentleness is the controlled power to be kind and merciful to those who are cruel; Meekness is the controlled power to humble and submit oneself against their own desires to the Will of the Father.

Series and Sermon: The Fruit of the Holiness: The Fruit of Meekness (The Power to Submit)

“The Definition, Purpose, and Production of Meekness”

I. The Definition of Meekness

How do we define Meekness?

Philippians 2:4 Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others. 5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:

Meekness is Humbleness, Quietness, Humility, and Submissiveness. But just like Gentleness, it is sometimes confused with Weakness.

As we stated earlier, Gentleness is the controlled power to be compassionate and kind to those who are cruel to us. Meekness is the strength of character to humble oneself against their own will and submit to the will of God.

The Definition of Meekness is the Power to Humble and Submit Oneself to the Will of God

Luke 22: 41 And he was withdrawn from them about a stone's cast, and kneeled down, and prayed, 42 Saying, **Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done.**

Anybody can exert their own will, emotions, and desires; and most usually do. But Meekness is the power to humble oneself and submit to the Will of God.

Philippians 2: ⁷ But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: ⁸ And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

Jesus **Made Himself** a servant, He **Humbled Himself** to the death of the cross! He didn't have to, but Meekness gave him the power to make himself a servant, to humble himself to the cross.

Luke 9:23 (AV)²³ And he said to *them* all, **If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.**

II. The Purpose of Meekness

What is the purpose of Meekness?

Philippians 2:⁹ Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:

Whereas Meekness is Humbleness, Quietness, Humility, and Submissiveness; its purpose is to Exalt, Promote, and Elevate to bring God Glory.

1 Peter 5:5–6 (AV)⁵ Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all *of you* be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. ⁶ Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:

Now the purpose is not so that you can revel or celebrate in being elevated or glorified, but to be divinely positioned by God so that you can do His will.

The Purpose of Meekness is to be Exalted so that you can Do the Will of God

Philippians 2: ⁹ Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: ¹⁰ That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of *things* in heaven, and *things* in earth, and *things* under the earth; ¹¹ And *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

We can't give ourselves a name that is big enough to do what God has called us to do; we must humble ourselves, so that God can exalt us and give us a name.

And when God gives us a name, we shall get everything God needs us to have to do His will.

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

Romans 8:18 (AV)¹⁸ For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time *are* not worthy *to be compared* with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

III. The Production of Meekness

Luke 22: ⁴⁰ And when he was at the place, he said unto them, **Pray that ye enter not into temptation.** ⁴¹ And he was withdrawn from them about a stone's cast, and kneeled down, and prayed, ⁴² Saying, **Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will,**

but thine, be done.

Meekness is humbling and submitting to the Will of God. Its purpose is to be exalted to do the Will of God. But how do we produce Meekness?

We do what Jesus did: Pray to be Led by the Will of God

The Holy Spirit Produces Meekness when we Pray to be Led by the Will of God!

Because of our human nature to want to be important, significant, and exalted we can easily be led away by temptations from the will of God to exalt ourselves.

And so Jesus prayed, **Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done.**

And He told the disciples to do the same, **Pray that ye enter not into temptation.**

1 John 2:16 (AV)¹⁶ For all that *is* in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

And so, Jesus taught us to pray every day to be led not by temptations, but by the will of God

Matthew 6:9–13 (AV)⁹ After this manner therefore pray ye: **Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. ¹⁰ Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as *it is* in heaven. ¹¹ Give us this day our daily bread. ¹² And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. ¹³ And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.**

Psalms 119: ¹³³ Order my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me.

Lord Order Our Steps from Evil, from the Wicked, from the Lusts, and from the Temptations!

Lord Order Our Steps to Your Will, Your Blessings, Your Wealth, Your Glory!

Midweek Study Lesson Plan (Sermon: The Fruit of Meekness (The Power to Submit))

Lesson Text

- Philippians 2:4–11, Luke 22:39–42

Sermon Outline

I. *The Definition of Meekness*

II. *The Purpose of Meekness*

III. *The Production of Meekness*

Questions

I. Getting to Know “Me”

1. If you could instantly become an expert in something, what would it be?
2. What is in the trunk of your car right now?

II. Into the Bible

1. In Matthew 5:5 Jesus said, “Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth,” a near quote of Psalm 37:11 which reads, “But the meek shall inherit the earth; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace.” Study these preceding verses in Psalm 37:3-8 and describe the path to being meek in submission to God even when it appears against our interest to do so.
2. Case Study: Moses, The Meekest Man. The Bible notes in Numbers 12:3, “(Now the man Moses was very meek, above all the men which were upon the face of the earth).” Read the account in Numbers 12:1-4. Given the situation described: Why was Moses described as very meek? What result or results do you see of his meekness in the circumstance?

III. Life Application

1. We have two options: pray or enter into temptation (Luke 22:40). How can prayer help us to resist temptation? Why should this be a daily prayer of ours?
2. Explain the difference in displaying meekness versus being weak. What does meekness teach us about defending ourselves when our feelings have been hurt?