

WEEK 9: Gentleness (*Prautēs*)

*Walk by the Spirit... The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, **gentleness**, self-control; against such things there is no law. (Galatians 5:16, 22-23)*

[WARMUP] “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.”
— *Jesus of Nazareth (Matthew 11:29)*

Gentleness (like the others of the Fruit) is not a particular action, but a disposition.
It is the way we are, a frame of mind, a habit of heart.

(So what might the way of gentleness look like?)

[READ]

<p>1 Corinthians 4:14—5:5 <i>Way admonish/warn (v. 14)</i></p>	<p>2 Timothy 2:22-26 <i>Way correct/instruct (v. 25)</i></p>
<p>2 Corinthians 10:1-7 <i>Way entreat/appeal/beg (v. 1)</i></p>	<p>James 1:19-22 <i>Way receive/accept Word (v. 21)</i></p>
<p>Galatians 5:25—6:2 <i>Way restore/help (v.1)</i></p>	<p>1 Peter 3:14-17 <i>Way defend/reason (v. 15)</i></p>

[THINK] The Fruit list isn’t exhaustive (like a sampler platter). What might be also be Spirit Fruit?
(cf. the Spirit in the Old Testament: Judges 6:34; Judges 15:14; Judges 3:10; etc.)

Gentleness is not the opposite of POWER but the opposite of CRUELTY.

TAKEAWAYS:

- Gentleness is a disposition, which in turn impacts the way we act.
- We can (and should) actively warn, correct, defend, help, etc. all still with gentleness.
- Power and gentleness are not incompatible, but both can be enacted at once.