

The Fruit of the Spirit – Gentleness

1 Peter 3:15 but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with **gentleness** and respect,

Titus 3:2 to speak evil of no one, to avoid quarreling, **to be gentle**, and to show perfect courtesy toward all people.

Col. 3:12 ¶ Put on then, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, **meekness**, and patience,

gentleness (Strong’s G4240) πραΰτης prautēs

Webster’s Dictionary - **Gen'tle·ness**, *n.* The quality or state of being gentle, well-born, mild, benevolent, docile, etc.; gentility; softness of manners, disposition, etc.; mildness.

Gentleness includes the quality of mildness, which is seen in a willingness to submit to the will of God. It implies a submissive and teachable spirit toward God that manifests itself in genuine humility and consideration toward others. It can be understood as humble submission to God, but here (Gal 5:23) it has the primary sense of gentleness and patience in dealing with others. It has the meaning of humility, courtesy, or considerateness in relating to others.

Questions to Ponder

What is the response of a gentle person to opposition?

How do **you** respond to opposition? To a rebuke?

How does gentleness open doors to ministry to those around us?

In what ways has God been gentle with you?

Word Study

Gentleness

2 Sam. 22:36
Psa. 18:35
1 Cor. 4:21
2 Cor. 10:1
Gal. 5:23 & 6:1
Eph. 4:2
1 Tim. 6:11
2 Tim. 2:25
1 Pet. 3:15

Gentle

2 Sam 3:39
Jer 11:19
Pro 15:4
Matt. 11:29
1 Tim. 3:3
Titus 3:2
James 3:17
1 Pet. 2:18
1 Pet. 3:4
1 Th. 2:7

Meekness

2 Cor. 10:1
Col. 3:12
James 1:21 & 3:13