



SUNDAY 19TH MAY 2024

Sermon Title: To be like him – Gentleness

Bible Reading: Colossians 3: 12-17

Preacher: Ps Paul Curtis

Sermon Notes:

- God values gentleness way more than we do (v12)
- He calls us to treat people with sensitivity (v13-14)
- We don't understand what it is to be truly strong (v16a)
- But Jesus always did, being gentle in heart (15-16)
- Dealing with people in Godly tenderness (v17)

Small Group Questions/Discussions

In what ways do we misinterpret what it is to be spiritual? The fruit of the spirit clearly displays that we are followers of Jesus. Why do you think the outworking of God's spirit in producing fruit in us, is not given the emphasis that it should? When was the last time you prayed for gentleness? What does Paul mean when he says clothe yourselves in gentleness? Why is it important for us to be very intentional in doing this? Do you agree that gentleness is far more important to God than we realise?

We will never live life without some conflict, but our goal should be to reduce any unnecessary friction. How does an attitude of gentleness achieve this? In what ways do we justify ourselves for not being sensitive and gentle towards others? Read v13-14, discuss the motivation that Jesus provides. Why should we always go the extra mile?

Gentleness is not highly rated in the world because it often seen as weakness. How does Jesus disprove this popular philosophy? What is the practical application for us in v16a? Why is gentleness actually a sign of someone with a strong character?

We are all gentle at times, but we can soon lose that desire. Read v15-16. What are the key ingredients to enable us to consistently display tenderness to others? How would we feel if Jesus only displayed gentleness to us every now and then?

Read Phillip 4:5. From this verse, how do we now understand the *why* and the *how* of displaying gentleness? As you read Isaiah 40 v10-11, identify two amazing aspects of God's character - What is your response to this amazing truth? Is v 11 a picture of how we relate to those around us?