

February 5, 2012
The Bridge Bible Fellowship
Pastor Paul S. Brown
Galatians 5:22-23

“Walking By The Spirit, Part Eleven”

- 1) **Love – value; worth (not bitterness)**
- 2) **Joy – exhilaration of the heart (not depression)**
- 3) **Peace – tranquility of the mind (not anxiety)**
- 4) **Patience – slow to anger; endure difficult people & circumstances (not anger)**
- 5) **Kindness – doing something beneficial for someone that hurt you (not stinginess / self-centeredness)**
- 6) **Goodness – to do what is right and stand for righteousness (not immorality)**

- 7) **Faithfulness**
 - a) **The Scriptural Definition** – Greek: pistis – firm belief / stable confidence / unbending trust / firm in your resolve, stable, dependable and trustworthy / full of faith

 - b) **The Sinful / Sorrowful Contrast** – _____

 - c) **The Supreme Example** (Dt. 7:9; 1 Jn. 1:9; Rev. 19:11)

 - d) **The Specific Commands** (1 Cor. 4:2; 2 Tim. 2:22; Ps. 37:3; Lk. 16:10; Rev. 2:10)

 - e) **The Spiritual Impact** (Ps. 31:23; Prov. 28:20; Mt. 25:21)

- 8) **Gentleness**
 - a) **The Scriptural Definition** – Greek: prautes = power under control (1 Cor. 4:21)

 - b) **The Sinful / Sorrowful Contrast** – _____ / _____ / _____

 - c) **The Supreme Example** (Mt. 21:5; 11:29; 2 Cor. 10:1)

 - d) **The Specific Commands** (1 Tim. 6:11; Col. 3:12; Eph. 4:2; 1 Pet. 3:4; 2 Tim. 2:25; Gal. 6:1; James 1:21; 1 Pet. 3:15)

 - e) **The Spiritual Impact** (Mt. 11:29)

Discussion Questions:

1. Give examples of how you have grown over the past few weeks in your sensitivity to the Holy Spirit and His work in your life. How has preaching the Gospel to yourself daily helped? How have you participated with Him in specific ways to be more loving, joyful, peaceful, patient, kind, and good? Of those areas which one do you continue to have the most difficulty submitting to His control?
2. What is faithfulness? What examples do we have from nature of things that are faithful? What examples do we have in the Bible of people who were faithful? What examples do we have from extra-biblical history of people that were faithful?
3. How does (or should) a deeper understanding of the Gospel of Grace impact you in the area of faithfulness? How would that be different from someone who is “faithful” because of legalism or religion?
4. Why are so many people responsible in the workplace but irresponsible at church (attend irregularly, give haphazardly, serve infrequently, give God the “leftovers” of their time, talents, and treasure)? How would a deeper understanding of the Gospel motivate them to be responsible (faithful)?
5. How was Jesus faithful during His earthly ministry? How has He shown Himself faithful to you over the course of your lifetime?
6. In what specific areas does the Holy Spirit want to produce faithfulness in our lives? (see 1 Cor. 4:2; 2 Tim. 2:22; Ps. 37:3; Lk. 16:10; Rev. 2:10...)
7. What does God promise to those who are faithful?
8. What image to people often have when they think of “gentleness”? How is that different from the biblical use of the term?
9. What are some antonyms (opposites) for gentleness? Give examples where you have seen others (or yourself) be something other than gentle. Why did you respond that way? Were the results godly?
10. How did Jesus demonstrate gentleness during His earthly ministry? How has He been gentle toward you?
11. How would a deeper understanding of the Gospel of Grace help you become more gentle in your dealings with others?
12. What are the specific areas where the Holy Spirit wants us produce gentleness in our lives (1 Tim. 6:11; Col. 3:12; Eph. 4:2; 1 Pet. 3:4; 2 Tim. 2:25; Gal. 6:1; James 1:21; 1 Pet. 3:15...)? Of those, which is the most difficult for you? What will you need to do the next time that situation occurs to walk by the Spirit and be gentle?
13. What are the benefits of being gentle? What are the consequences of not being gentle?

[Answers to blanks: Irresponsibility; Harsh / Callous / Insensitive]