

FRUIT THAT'S GOOD FOR THE BODY

GENTLENESS

NUMBERS 12

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I. Moses: An old school example of gentleness

A. A brother and sister begin to *talk*

1. *Aaron*: The High Priest

2. *Miriam*: A prophetess

B. A bogus *concern*

C. An attempt to undermine *authority*

D. A serious *meeting* with God

1. God makes a clarifying *statement*:

I speak to him face to face

2. God asks a revealing *question*:

Why then were you not afraid....?

3. God makes a visible *judgment*

E. A gentle response of *love* and *compassion*

♦ Don't *mess* with Moses

II. What is gentleness?

A. Gentleness is not *weakness*

B. Gentleness is strength under *control*

C. Gentleness is concerned about God's *honor*

D. Gentleness is a response to being *mistreated*

III. Three qualities of gentleness in the life of a Christ follower

A. A complete *confidence* that God is in control

1. We are able to maintain *composure* and *calmly* respond

B. A total *reliance* on God to defend if needed

1. We become a credible *witness*

2. We maintain our *integrity*

C. A supernatural *ability* to *forgive* others

1. We recognize that what man intended for *harm*
God meant for *good*

How is God "meeking" you?

- What situations are you faced with that require gentleness?
- Who in your life challenges you the most when it comes to gentleness?
- If you are being mistreated, what does it look like for you to bear the fruit of gentleness in your situation?
- What keeps you from being confident that God is in control?
- What does it look like for you to rely on God to be your "stronghold and defense"?