

BETTER TOGETHER

SERMON SERIES

John Wohlgemuth.....July 5, 2020

GENTLENESS

Titus 3:1-11

_____ unity through gentleness toward others.

1. Recognize the _____ of a gentle life. (1-2)

a. _____ to God

b. Kind to others

c. Ready to work

2. See the _____ for a gentle life. (3-8)

a. The bad news: utter _____

b. The good news: amazing grace

c. The end result: _____ servanthood

3. Isn't gentleness _____, though? _____. (9-11)

a. It _____ quarrels and dissension.

i. For the good of yourself

b. It _____ gossip and division.

i. For the good of all

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Questions for adults to discuss:

1. What does it mean to be gentle? When is it most difficult for you to be gentle?
2. Read Titus 3:1-11. Do your best to summarize this passage in 30 seconds or less.
3. How can you personally relate to verse 3? How does this a) lead you to worship Christ better, and b) encourage you to both grow in humility and extend gentleness to others?
4. Verses 4-7 remind us that it is only by Jesus' work on the cross and in our hearts that we have received salvation, and not at all by our own doing. How does this truth posture your heart before God?
5. In light of today's reading, how can you seek to honor God with your mouth and speak with gentleness this week?

Questions to discuss with 6th-12th grade students:

1. What does Paul have in mind when he says, "to be gentle?" Is this physical gentleness or gentleness of speech? What's the distinction?
 2. How are those in Christ renewed from their old-self in verses 3-5?
 3. Why is it important for us to remember, "the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared" in our lives before He saved us? How should that play out in our actions toward others?
 4. In what ways can you seek to be gentle to those around you this week?
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Questions/Activities for 2nd-5th graders:

Read Titus 3:1-11.

1. What do you think of when you hear the word gentle?
2. How can we be gentle with our words?

Tell your kids about a humble person you know and the positive influence he or she has had on you because of their humility.

Activity: Supplies Needed - Water balloons, large bucket

1. To prepare for this activity, fill up the water balloons and put them in a large bucket.
2. Hand each child a water balloon. Place a bucket away from where they are standing. Ask them to try to get the balloon in the bucket by tossing it in as hard as they can. After they've thrown the first balloon hand them a second one and tell them that this time they should try to get the balloon in the bucket without breaking it by gently placing it in the bucket.
3. Just like the balloon that we weren't careful with, when we are harsh or careless with our words, we can really hurt other people and make them burst. But, when we are gentle with our words and actions, it shows we care about others and want to treat them in a kind and loving way.

Questions/Activities for birth-1st graders:

Titus 3:2b says, "Remind them...to avoid quarreling, to be **gentle**, and to show perfect courtesy toward all people."

Questions:

1. What is gentleness? (being thoughtful and careful with other people's feelings, using soft touches and soft voices)
2. How can you show gentleness with other people? (You think about your words before you say them to make sure they will not hurt people's feelings)
3. What happens when we do not use gentleness? (We hurt other people's feelings; we say mean things)

Activities:

- Play a game that requires gentleness. Games such as water balloon toss or moving a cotton ball on a spoon can help teach your child the physical act of gentleness. You can easily relate physical gentleness to emotional or spiritual gentleness.
- To help your family become more aware of how you speak to one another, you can call for a "Whisper Day." Instruct your family to go an entire day speaking to each other only in whispers. Being aware of how we talk to one another is a great step toward treating one another more gently in general.

