

Family Studies on Gentleness - In Christ's Embrace

- Recommended Hymn: A Shield About Me
- **Psalm 18:35 - “You have given me the shield of your salvation, and your right hand supported me, and your gentleness made me great.”**
 - What does God's gentleness have to do with His ability to protect His people as their shield?
 - How does the gentleness of God make His people great?
 - What does this passage teach us about God's definition of gentleness?
 - **Today we will pray together for...** God's protection and provision to be shown to us and shown to those around us through our trust in Him.
- Recommended Hymn: Gentle Shepherd
- **Isaiah 40:11 - “He will tend His flock like a shepherd; He will gather the lambs in His arms; He will carry them in His bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.”**
 - Where else does the Bible talk about God and His promised Messiah being a shepherd to His people? What does this look like in our relationship with Him today?
 - How does Christ gently lead us? How can we gently lead others to Him?
 - What does this passage teach us about God's definition of gentleness?
 - **Today we will pray together for...** God's gentle guidance to produce love and security for us, and help as we seek to gently guide others to Him.
- Recommended Hymn: Hark, the Gentle Voice
- **Matthew 11:28-30 - “Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”**
 - Who is Jesus talking to here? How does this passage apply to them? How does it apply to us today?
 - What are some ways and situations in which Christ has given our family rest? How have these moments taught us about the gentleness of Christ? What have they taught us about the gentleness we should have as Christians?
 - What does this passage teach us about God's definition of gentleness?
 - **Today we will pray together for...** rest from the Lord and comfort in His promises, and the opportunity and ability to present others with this gift.

- Recommended Hymn: Rise Up, O Men of God
- **Galatians 6:1 - “Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted.”**
 - Why does God ask His people to help each other in this way? What does gentleness have to do with this responsibility to help each other?
 - Read the whole passage (Galatians 6:1-10) together. What do the following verses teach us about how gentleness is applied in the situations Paul is talking about?
 - What does this passage teach us about God’s definition of gentleness?
 - **Today we will pray together for...** the brotherly love to help one another and the wisdom to know how to help one another as Christ would.
- Recommended Hymn: Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus
- **Philippians 4:5 - “Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand.”**
 - The word translated “reasonableness” here can also be translated as gentleness. What does this tell us about the nature of gentleness?
 - What impact does the fact that “the Lord is at hand” have on what Paul is saying here? How does Christ’s promise to come again affect our calling to be gentle?
 - What does this passage teach us about God’s definition of gentleness?
 - **Today we will pray together for...** Christ to come quickly, and for His coming to motivate us to be more like Him.
- Recommended Hymn: Let It Rise
- **James 3:17 - “But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere.”**
 - Why is it important to have wisdom from above? What impact does this wisdom have on our lives as Christians?
 - How does gentleness relate to the other traits of godly wisdom that are listed here? Why is it important for us to embody each of these traits as the people of God?
 - What have all of these passages taught us about God’s definition of gentleness? How can we show that gentleness to each other as a family and to those around us as Christians?
 - **Today we will pray together for...** greater wisdom from God, and for our gentleness to reflect our identity as His people.