



CHRIST
CHURCH
FOX CHAPEL

Children's Ministry

Living by the Spirit: Lesson 9

Scripture: Galatians 5: 22

The fruit of the Spirit is... Gentleness

Context

Galatians is a letter from Paul to a church in a place called Galatia. Some people have come into the church and started teaching wrong ideas like that God can only love them if they do all the right things perfectly. This has the church worried and confused, so Paul writes to them to remind them of grace.

Concept

Gentleness is something that we must intentionally do, and it is not the same as weakness. When we are facing struggles and hardships it is easy to turn to bitterness, anger, and even revenge. But when we intentionally choose to walk in gentleness, we show humility, compassion, and understanding. This takes real strength that comes from the Lord! It isn't something that just come naturally but something that takes practice, and a reliance on the Spirit. This is something that comes only when we abide in Jesus. When we abide (read John 15 to gain a better understanding of this meaning) in Jesus we can produce fruit, we can produce gentleness when we should be angry, or seeking revenge. Gentleness is defined in the dictionary as "the quality of being kind, tender, or mild-mannered." In terms of the fruit of the Spirit, the kind of gentleness we're interested in involves showing humility and thankfulness towards God, as well as polite, restrained and compassionate behavior towards everyone else.

Questions

1. Who do you know in your life that shows you this kind of godly gentleness?
2. How is Jesus gentle with you?
3. In what ways can you grow in this fruit of gentleness?
4. How will you pray and ask the Holy Spirit for more of this gift?

My Prayer

Lord, I pray that you will help these children and their families abide in you. That they can see your gentleness and display it to each other and others around them. Your love will just overflow in them and spill onto those around them. We thank you and praise you Jesus. Amen.

