

**Imitation of Christ**  
**Gentleness**  
**Matthew 21:5**

James 3:5-6 and Dynamite

Proverbs 15:1 *A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.*

Matthew 21:5 *“Say to Daughter Zion, ‘See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.’”*

What is gentleness: A fruit grown in us by the Holy Spirit Galatians 5:22-23

Jesus is gentle as a Shepherd

1 Timothy 3:3

The natural or first response to a stressful situation:

- 1) Protection of rights, territory, desire
- 2) Anger
- 3) Impatience

**How to be gentle:**

- 1) **Develop gentleness as one of your character traits.** Colossians 3:12
- 2) **Pause before responding.** 2 Corinthians 10:1
- 3) **Consider the needs of the other person.** Ephesians 4:2

**Why be gentle:**

- 1) **It is a powerful witness.** Philippians 4:5; 1 Peter 3:15
- 2) **We will have less stress.** Matthew 11:29
- 3) **It brings peace to a tense situation.** Titus 3:2; Proverbs 15:1; 16:24
- 4) **It is what God expects of us.** 1 Timothy 6:11; 1 Peter 3:4