

Blessed are the Meek

The Gospel of Matthew, Part 15

Matthew 5:5

Sermon Outline

I. What is Meekness?

- A. It isn't. . . .
 - 1. Weakness
 - 2. Niceness
 - 3. Wishy-Washyness
 - 4. False Humility
- B. It is. . . .
 - 1. An outward expression of inwardly cultivated, gospel-centered identity.
 - 2. Willingly giving ourselves away for the sake of others because we have nothing to lose and nothing to prove.
 - 3. Strength under the Spirit's control, used for the interests of God and others.
 - 4. Genuine humility, true submissiveness, real gentleness, self-sacrifice, long-suffering.

II. Where Do We Get Meekness?

- A. Identify and value it in others.
 - 1. Biblical models: Abraham, Moses, David
 - 2. Contemporary models
- B. Learn it from Jesus in the Gospel. (Mt. 11:28-30)
- C. Pray for it. (Mt. 7:7-11)
- D. Practice it. (Mt. 6:2-6)

III. How is Meekness Blessed?

- A. Inheritance in Christ FOREVER. (Rom. 8:17, Eph. 1:14)
- B. Contentment in Christ TODAY. (Phil. 2:10-14)

Blessed are the Meek

The Gospel of Matthew, Part 15

Matthew 5:5

Questions for Reflection & Discussion

1. Review together what you remember about the first two beatitudes. What does it mean to be "poor in spirit"? What does Jesus mean when he says, "Blessed are those who mourn"? (Go back and listen on the website if you need to!)
2. What are we to make of the fact that we don't even use the word "meek" anymore? What does that tell us about how the world values this quality?
3. Why would "blessed are the meek", like the other beatitudes, have floored Jesus' original Jewish hearers? What were they expecting and hoping for?
4. Why does "blessed are the meek" surprise and shock us today?
5. How does "blessed are the meek" relate to and flow from the first two beatitudes? What's the slight difference between being "poor in spirit" and being "meek"?
6. What isn't meekness? Discuss the definitions of meekness given in the outline. What does it mean to have a "gospel-centered identity"?
7. Where do we get meekness? How do we become meek?
8. Who are some biblical examples of meekness? Who are some contemporary models of meekness at Grace Church or in other areas of your life? What does meekness look like today?
9. Consider Jesus' meekness. What did it look like? How did it play out? Was Jesus weak, flimsy or just nice?
10. What would a meek church look like? How would it feel? Would it be accepting of others? Would it compromise the truth of God's Word? Would it be warm and friendly? Would it welcome sinners? What would be the impact and influence of a meek church in the broader community?