

**Making Relationships Last A Lifetime - part 7**  
**"THE RELATIONAL POWER OF GENTLENESS"**

"Let your gentleness be evident to all." Phil. 4:5

**GENTLENESS** is the **POWER** of your potential under God's **CONTROL**

**P.O.W.E.R. = 5 Elements of Gentle People**

**1. P ersonality**

"You must go on growing in me and I will grow in you. For just as the branch cannot bear fruit unless it shares the life of the vine, so you can produce nothing unless you go on growing in me." John 15:4 (LB)

YOU CAN'T HAVE THE **FRUITS** WITHOUT THE **ROOTS**

**2. O utlook**

"Don't just think about your own affairs, but be interested in others too, and in what they are doing. Your attitude should be the same as that of Jesus Christ." Phil. 2:4-5 (LB)

GENTLE PEOPLE ARE **UNDERSTANDING** NOT **DEMANDING**

"Learn to put aside your own desires so that you will become patient and Godly. . . This will make possible the next step, which is for you to enjoy other people and to like them, and finally you will grow to love them deeply." 2 Pet. 1:7 (LB)

"Where do all the fights and quarrels among you come from? They come from your desires. . . which are constantly fighting within your bodies. . . you strongly desire things but you cannot get them, so you quarrel and fight." James 4:1-2 (GN)

"Wherever there is jealousy, or selfish ambition, there will be disorder and every other kind of evil." James 3:16 (LB)

**3. W ords**

"And the tongue is a flame of fire. It is full of wickedness, and poisons every part of the body. And the tongue is set on fire by hell itself and can turn our whole lives into a blazing flame of destruction and disaster. . . but no human being can tame the tongue. It is always ready to pour out its deadly poison." James 3:6-8

"Whatever is in the heart overflows into speech." Luke 6:45

"Watch the way you talk. Let nothing foul or dirty come out of your mouth. Say only what helps, each word a gift." Eph. 4:29

"Kind words bring life, but cruel words crush your spirit." Prov. 15:4 (GN)

GENTLE PEOPLE ARE **UPLIFTING** NOT **OFFPUTTING**

**4. E xpectations**

"Be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love." Eph. 4:2

GENTLE PEOPLE EXPECT GOD'S **BEST** NOT PEOPLE'S **WORST**

**5. R esponse**

"He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he who rules his own spirit, than he who captures a city." Prov. 16:32

GENTLE PEOPLE ARE **PROACTIVE** NOT **REACTIVE**