

S.O.H.L.

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS

Pronounced "Soul"

July 4, 2016

Gentleness

While visiting a park in Washington D.C., I discovered something new. The squirrels were not afraid of humans, approaching people to be fed. The squirrels were completely comfortable around people and I wondered, "How can this be?" Well, not surprisingly, the squirrels in that park act in reaction to how they are treated. The people are gentle to them and the squirrels are familiar with their character. It should be the same way in Christianity. Christ is very gentle, kind and loving. He never attacks His people. Yes, He corrects and holds His people accountable, but He is never defensive like we can be at times. If we claim He is in us, we should strive to conduct ourselves in the same manner as Christ. Let us review what the Bible has to say about being gentle....

Christian leaders should exhibit gentleness. **I Thessalonians 2:6-7 NKJV – (6)** Nor did we seek glory from men, either from you or from others, when we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. **(7)** But we were gentle among you, just as a nursing mother cherishes her own children.

Teach with gentleness. **II Timothy 2:24- 26 NKJV – (24)** And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient, **(25)** in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, **(26)** and *that* they may come to their senses *and escape* the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to *do* his will.

Gentleness is a mark of wisdom. **James 3:17 NKJV – (17)** But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy.

SCRIPTURE READING:

JOHN 15:18

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

If the devil is knocking at your front door, let Jesus answer it!