

#Blessed Series
Week 3 outline
10.24.2021
Matthew 5:5

Blessed are the Meek

¹"Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, ²and he began to teach them.

He said:

³'Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.

⁵Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth." - Matthew 5:1-5

I. What ≠ Meekness?

"Meekness is hard to define... The Greeks had no respect for meekness because they equated it with servility—people taking advantage of you, people walking all over you, people punching you in the gut as you thank them for the pleasure of being hit, that sort of thing."

- Kevin DeYoung

Misdefined as:	Overcompensated to:
People Punching You in the Gut — Gutless People Walking All Over You — Spineless People Taking Advantage of You — Brainless	Overbearing, Domineering, and Abusive Climbing the Ladder at the Expense of Others and Jockeying for Position One-Upping and Boasting of Self

II. What = Meekness? Jesus = Meekness!

"Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls." - Jesus, Matthew 11:29

1. Jesus ≠ Gutless
 - a) Strong and Under Control for the Benefit of Others
 - b) Power Harnessed by Love (Ephesians 3:17-18)

JESUS IS STRONG AND UNDER CONTROL FOR THE BENEFIT OF OTHERS,
AND IS POWER HARNESSSED BY LOVE:
HE IS THE DEFINITION OF MEEKNESS

2. Jesus ≠ Spineless
 - a) Gentle and Lowly
 - b) Life Dignified in spite of Life's Circumstances (Matthew 5:5b)

"it is intended by the Lord to give us the strength to endure in meekness when the natural inclination would be to defend ourselves or retaliate or give way to fretful anger" - John Piper

JESUS IS GENTLE AND LOWLY,
AND IS LIFE DIGNIFIED IN SPITE OF LIFE'S CIRCUMSTANCES:
HE IS THE DEFINITION OF MEEKNESS

3. Meek ≠ Brainless
 - a) The Lion and The Lamb
 - b) The Lord and The Savior (Matthew 21:5 referencing Zechariah 9:9)

JESUS IS THE LION AND THE LAMB,
AND IS THE RESURRECTED LORD AND SAVIOR WHO DIED ON THE CROSS:
HE IS THE DEFINITION OF MEEKNESS

III. Meekness or Me-ness?

- A. Not... "I will buy meekness! I will decide to be meek! I will work on meekness!"
- B. But... Blessed are they who give up: their love of self (poor in spirit), their love of sin (mourn), their love of this world (meek)...*and they shall inherit the earth!*
- C. Wait... Don't we have agency and responsibility? (Eph. 4:1-3, Col. 3:12, 1 Tim. 6:11)
Power Harnessed "in Love" (Eph 4) | "Put On" (Col. 3) | "Pursue" (1 Tim. 6)
- D. First... We are Transformed by the Gospel and the Life of Jesus is Being Formed in Us

"And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another" - 2 Corinthians 3:18

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law." - Galatians 5:22-23

"I, Paul, myself entreat you, by the meekness and gentleness of Christ..." - 2 Corinthians 10:1

"Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart" - Matt. 11:29