

Day 9—Gentleness
James 3:13-18 & Colossians 3:12-17

Suggestions for Intercessory Prayer

Feel free to claim other promises as well. Remember, all of God's biddings are His enablings!

- **Praise God for the ways Jesus set an example of how to be gentle.**
He was oppressed and He was afflicted, yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so He opened not His mouth. Isa. 53:7
- **Praise God that He is calling us to learn from Him and that by imitating Him we can have peace.**
Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Matt. 11:29
- **Praise God that His gentleness is making us great.**
You have also given me the shield of Your salvation; Your right hand has held me up, Your gentleness has made me great. Ps. 18:35
- **Praise God that He teaches the humble His ways.**
The humble He guides in justice, and the humble He teaches His way. Ps. 25:9
- **Ask God to give you His gentle wisdom.**
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. James 3:17
- **Ask God to teach you how to be gentle.**
But you, O man of God, flee these things and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness. 1 Tim. 6:11

Do not let your adornment be merely outward—arranging the hair, wearing gold, or putting on fine apparel—rather let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God. 1 Pet. 3:3, 4

- **Pray that God will teach you how to lift up with gentleness someone who is weak and has fallen.**
Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted. Gal. 6:1
- **Ask the Lord to teach you to be gentle even to those who are not gentle toward you.**
Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand. Phil. 4:5
- **Are there any people and situations in your life where you need to learn more gentleness? Pray for those situations, asking that you will learn from Him how to be gentle.**
It is God who arms me with strength, and makes my way perfect. Ps. 18:32
- **Pray that God will teach you how to humble yourself.**
Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time. 1 Peter 5:6

And whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.
Matt. 23:12

- **Pray for greater support and interest by all church members and leaders in maintaining Seventh-day Adventist education as truly Seventh-day Adventist in content and emphasis. This is so vital to the church's future workforce and mission perspective.**
Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it. Prov. 22:6
- **Pray for an increased emphasis on small-group outreach, so that all members are participating in personal witnessing and proclaiming God's great truth in these last days.**
But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear. 1 Pet. 3:15
- **Mission to the Cities—Pray for the Trans-European Division and the cities they are trying to win for Christ: London, England; Zagreb, Croatia; Tallinn, Estonia; Dublin, Ireland; Copenhagen, Denmark; Helsinki, Finland; Budapest, Hungary; Bergen, Norway; Randstad, Netherlands; Warsaw, Poland; Belgrade, Serbia; and Gothenburg, Sweden. Pray for people to have a deep hunger for the Word of God.**
“Behold, the days are coming,” says the Lord GOD, “That I will send a famine on the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD.” Amos 8:11
- **Pray for any personal needs or anything on your heart.**
But I am poor and needy; yet the Lord thinks upon me. You are my help and my deliverer; do not delay, O my God. Ps. 40:17
- **Praise God that He does not withhold anything good from His children and that He is going to answer your prayers.**
Yet you do not have because you do not ask. . . . Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full. James 4:2; John 16:24

At the end of prayer time you may want to form groups of two or three and pray for the seven people that you have on your list. Pray that God will make them gentle and that they can be witnesses for Him. Claim James 1:19, 20 for them: “So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath; for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God.” If you have a personal prayer request that you are not comfortable praying about in the large group, feel free to share with your partner and pray about it together.

Suggested Songs

“I Love You Lord”; “Like Jesus” (*SDA Hymnal* #492); “Take Time to Be Holy” (*SDA Hymnal* #500); “I Need the Prayers” (*SDA Hymnal* #505); “Under His Wings” (*SDA Hymnal* #531).

Ellen White on Gentleness

But the fruit of the Spirit is . . . gentleness.—Gal. 5:22, 23

You are to represent Christ in His meekness and gentleness and love. True gentleness is a gem of great value in the sight of God (*My Life Today*, p. 53).

If we have Christ abiding with us, we shall be Christians at home as well as abroad. He who is a Christian will have kind words for his relatives and associates. He will be kind, courteous, loving, sympathetic, and will be educating himself for an abode with the family above. If he is a member of the royal family, he will represent the kingdom to which he is going. He will speak with gentleness to his children, for he will realize that they, too, are heirs of God, members of the heavenly court. Among the children of God no spirit of harshness dwells; for “the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.” The spirit that is cherished in the home is the spirit that will be manifested in the church (*Ye Shall Receive Power*, p. 75).

No member of the family can enclose himself within himself, where other members of the family shall not feel his influence and spirit. The very expression of the countenance has an influence for good or evil. His spirit, his words, his actions, his attitude toward others, are unmistakable. . . . If he is filled with the love of Christ, he will manifest courtesy, kindness, tender regard for the feelings of others, and will communicate to his associates, by his acts of love, a tender, grateful, happy feeling. It will be made manifest that he is living for Jesus. . . . He will be able to say to the Lord, “Thy gentleness hath made me great” (*My Life Today*, p. 53).

Oh, we must educate the soul to be pitiful, gentle, tender, full of forgiveness and compassion. While we lay aside all vanity, all foolish talking, jesting, and joking, we are not to become cold, unsympathetic, and unsocial. The Spirit of the Lord is to rest upon you until you shall be like a fragrant flower from the garden of God. You are to keep talking of the light, of Jesus, the Sun of righteousness, until you shall change from glory to glory, from character to character, going on from strength to strength, and reflecting more and more of the precious image of Jesus. When you do this, the Lord will write in the books of heaven, “Well done,” because you represent Jesus (*Ye Shall Receive Power*, p. 75).

Questions for Personal Reflection

1. In what areas of life do you need to be more gentle? To what people could you show more gentleness?
2. Make a list of people to whom you could be more gentle and ask God to give you His gentleness so that you may reflect Him to them. Praise Him in advance for the victory He is going to give you.



Let's
Pray!