



THE CORE VIRTUES OF
FAITHFULNESS ~ GENTLENESS
& SELF-CONTROL

AGAPE LIFE CHURCH
CORE LIFE SERIES
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But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things! Galatians 5:22-23

I. The Core Virtue of Faithfulness

The core virtue of faithfulness is one of the fruit of the Spirit that is part of the new man in Christ. God is perfect in His faithfulness and we should allow His faithfulness to be **reproduced** in us.

He Imparts His Faithfulness in Us

God is faithful and He has placed His faithful character within us, it becomes our responsibility to imitate Him in being faithful by committing our lives to being trustworthy and reliable. Allowing the fruit of the Holy Spirit of faithfulness to grow in our lives will **consistently and increasingly** make us **true** to the Savior, true to the Word, and true to each other.

He who is faithful in what is least is faithful also in much; and he who is unjust in what is least is unjust also in much. Therefore, if you have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches? And if you have not been faithful in what is another man's, who will give you what is your own? Luke 16:10-12

Faithfulness is a core trait we see the importance of over and over in scripture. **There is a big connection to faith in God and faithfulness.** (Luke 6:46) **God seeks the faithful and loyal of heart.**

II. The Core Virtue of Gentleness - Living a Spirit Sensitive Life

This fruit of the Spirit that produces gentleness helps us to **conquer ourselves and be thoughtful of others.**

"Come unto me, all you that are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart." Matthew 11:28-29



Core Point: God has placed the seeds of His greatest virtues in our life when we received Christ. The core virtues of faithfulness, gentleness and self-control, are virtues that when grown and enjoyed, reflect the Christ-like quality of our life in Him.

In the midst of a violent world, gentleness is more needed today than perhaps ever before.

The Lord asks you and me to walk alongside him, literally, to yoke up with him, and He'll **teach us** this gentleness.

The core virtue of gentleness is demonstrated in life of Christ over and over again. As we follow Him we also will find great gentleness overcoming all in our life and our relationships. Gentleness, what is it? **-Submitted strength, power under control, gentleness is God's love touching us.**

Gentleness, unlike pride, creates space for God in our hearts and lives because those who are gentle are open and responsible to the work and presence of the Holy Spirit.

Gentleness opens the door in the life of the hurting as we care for one another and serve one another. Gentleness gives us the opportunity to do what is good and right and just, to all people, but also to other believers so that they are encouraged and strengthened in their life and walk with Christ.

III. The Core Virtue of Self-Control

Living a spirit-controlled life.

"The first victory that successful people ever achieve or win is the victory over themselves. The moment we begin to have victory over our own flesh and our own desires, and become self-controlled, then all of a sudden we can become victorious over other things in life." John Maxwell

Whoever has no rule over his own spirit is like a city broken down, without walls. Proverbs 25:28

Self-discipline is the first lesson that ought to be learned, but usually the last. **The term Paul used for self-control means to be strong in a thing; masterful.** Rom. 12:1-2

A self-controlled life means total submission to God. Self-control has much to do with our character and integrity. Self-control is a fundamental that will serve us well in all aspects of our lives.

The Holy Spirit is able to accomplish His work of producing fruit in a full and rich measure as we put ourselves totally under subjection to Him.

Go forward walking in line, our conduct controlled by the Spirit. Galatians 5:25 Amplified



Core Statement: I will release the fullness of God's virtues of faithfulness, gentleness and self-control in my life. I will see Jesus glorified in my relationships as I live a Christ-like life!