

**SINCE GOD CHOSE YOU**  
**God's Kingdom Revealed in Me #2**

Pastor Dennis Clanton  
Woodland Church  
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“Since God chose you to be the holy people he loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.”  
(Colossians 3:12–15, NLT)

**THE DOVE, BECAUSE OF ITS GENTLENESS,  
IS A SYMBOL OF GOD'S POWER.**

“You have given me the shield of your salvation, and your right hand supported me, and your gentleness made me great.” (Psalm 18:35, ESV)

“And now I will send the Holy Spirit, just as my Father promised. But stay here in the city until the Holy Spirit comes and fills you with power from heaven.”  
(Luke 24:49, NLT)

**1. GENTLENESS WILL DEFLECT ANGER.**

“A gentle answer deflects anger, but harsh words make tempers flare.”  
(Proverbs 15:1, NLT)

**2. GENTLENESS WILL DISARM CRITICS.**

“We appeal gently when evil things are said about us. Yet we are treated like the world's garbage, like everybody's trash—right up to the present moment.” (1 Corinthians 4:13, NLT)

**3. GENTLENESS SOFTENS THE STUBBORN HEART.**

“Do you see what a great thing gentleness is, how it stings our hearts more than vehemence? It inflicts indeed a keener wound. For in the case of bodies that have become callous, a blow does not affect the sense so powerfully, but if someone first softens them and makes them tender, then a stab is effective. Likewise, here one must first soften, and that which softens is not wrath, not vehement accusation, not reproach, but gentleness.” - *Chrysostom*

“A gentle word can get through to the hard-headed.” (Proverbs 25:15, NCV)

#### **4. GENTLENESS IS LOVE IN ACTION.**

“I drew them with gentle cords, With bands of love, And I was to them as those who take the yoke from their neck. I stooped and fed them.”  
(Hosea 11:4, NKJV)

“I led them with kindness and with love, not with ropes. I held them close to me; I bent down to feed them.” (Hosea 11:4, CEV)

#### **5. GENTLENESS IS THE PHENOMENAL PRESENCE OF CHRIST IN A CHRISTIAN.**

“Never did he appear so much a lamb, and never did he show so much of the dovelike spirit, as at that time. If therefore we see any of the followers of Christ, in the midst of the most violent, unreasonable, and wicked opposition of God’s and his own enemies, maintaining under all this temptation, the humility, quietness, and gentleness of a lamb, and the harmlessness, and love and sweetness of a dove, we may well judge that here is a good soldier of Jesus Christ.” - *Jonathan Edwards, A Treatise Concerning Religious Affection, p 163*

“Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light.” (Matthew 11:29–30, NLT)

### **GROWTHWORK**

“Blessed are the gentle, for they shall inherit the earth.”  
(Matthew 5:5, NASB)

#### **1. KNOW THAT GOD LOVES YOU.**

“For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.”  
(John 3:16, NLT)

2. ACKNOWLEDGE MY OWN SINFULNESS.

“Everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God’s glorious standard.”  
(Romans 3:23, NLT)

3. GOD SENT HIS SON TO DIE FOR MY SINS.

“God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.” (Romans 5:8, NLT)

4. GENTLE CONFIDENCE IS THE MIRACLE OF FAITH IN CHRIST.

“It’s who you are, not what you say and do, that counts. Your true being brims over into true words and deeds.” (Luke 6:45, Message)