



“Power Under Control”
“Blessed are the Meek, for They Shall Inherit the Earth”
Matthew 5:5

“Survival of the fittest” is a phrase we hear a lot. “Only the strong survive.” “Outwit, Outlast” theme of the Survivor show. Our culture heralds and champions the strong. Strong leaders, strong personalities, strong people. The meek are seen as getting the leftovers of life and passed by for everything. In “The Beatitudes” Jesus again takes a cultural weakness and turns it into a spiritual strength.

Key Verse. *“Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.” (Matthew 5:5).*

“Blessed are the meek,” this statement was a shock to those who heard this. To the religious community at the time of Jesus being spiritually proud, self-sufficient, pious, and outwardly religious was the norm of the day. When Jesus came He shocked everyone with the idea that meekness is the key to kingdom living. The scriptural “meekness” comes from a Greek word, “*praos*,” which means mild, gentle, tenderhearted, patient, and submissive.” Meek was used to describe a soothing medicine, a gentle breeze and a colt that had been broken and domesticated. Meekness is gentleness, mildness and a subdued character but not weakness. It is power under control. As MacArthur states, “it is a by-product of self-emptying, of self-humiliation, of brokenness before God.”

When you hear the word, “meek” who or what comes to your mind?

The Bible holds up several leaders as “meek,” one being Moses. Read *Numbers 12:1-16*. Moses is described here as “meek.” Summarize what is happening in this section, and why Moses is described as “meek” as compared to Miriam and Aaron.

Read *Galatians 5:22,23*. Meekness (gentleness) is described as a fruit of the spirit. Is this something I strive for, pray for in my life as an attribute of a disciple?

In *Matthew 11:29-30* Jesus describes himself as meek. How does Jesus’ meekness enter and affect my life? What does he promise?

Read *Psalms 37*. David is described as a meek leader. What are the characteristics of meekness listed in this Psalm? What are the benefits? Promises for those who are meek?

“Meekness is receiving the inheritance of the world but living as a pauper before God and others.” Do you agree or disagree with this statement? How does your answer align with scripture?

THIS WEEK:

- Who are the people I admire and follow? Meek? Arrogant? What are they doing to my soul?
- Am I a person of biblical meekness? What may need to change in my life

Next Week:
“Blessed are Those Who Hunger and Thirst for Righteousness, for They Shall Be Satisfied” (Mark 5:6)