

Becoming Useful to Your SAVIOR

Growing into a Vessel of Honor/ 2 Timothy 2:20-26, part 4

A special care for the LOST and CONFUSED 2 Timothy 2:25-26 Chris Mueller 11-18-2018

Introduction:

20 Now in a large house there are not only gold and silver vessels, but also vessels of wood and of earthenware, and some to honor and some to dishonor.

- #1 A useful tool will have a CLEANSED life ^{21a}
21a Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from these things, he will be a vessel for honor,
- #2 A fruitful tool will desire a SANCTIFIED heart ^{21b}
21b sanctified
- #3 An effective tool will pursue becoming USEFUL to God ^{21c}
21c useful to the Master
- #4 An impactful tool will choose to do WORKS for God ^{21d}
21d prepared for every good work.
- #5 A useable tool will develop a PURE heart ²²
22 Now flee from youthful lusts and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart
- #6 An efficient tool will discern how to AVOID arguments ²³
23 But refuse foolish and ignorant speculations, knowing that they produce quarrels.
- #7 A competent tool of Christ will pursue a GRACIOUS manner ²⁴
24 The Lord's bond-servant must not be quarrelsome, but be kind to all, able to teach, patient when wronged

25 with gentleness correcting those who are in opposition, if perhaps God may grant them repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth, 26 and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, having been held captive by him to do his will.

#8 A useful servant will nurture a _____ spirit ^{25a}

25a with gentleness correcting those who are in opposition

1 Thessalonians 2:7 But we proved to be gentle among you, as a nursing mother tenderly cares for her own children.

Matthew 11:29 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. Matthew 21:5 ... 'BEHOLD YOUR KING IS COMING TO YOU, GENTLE, AND MOUNTED ON A DONKEY...'

Matthew 26:53 disposal more than twelve legions of angels

Isaiah 42:3 A bruised reed He will not break And a dimly burning wick He will not extinguish...

John MacArthur Jesus never defended Himself, but when they desecrated His Father's Temple, He made a whip and beat them. Meekness says, "I'll never defend myself, but I'll die defending God." Twice Jesus cleansed the Temple. He blasted the hypocrites. He condemned false leaders of Israel. He fearlessly uttered divine judgment upon people. And yet the Bible says He was MEEK. For the Christian, therefore, meekness is power used only in the defense of God.

#9 A useful servant will seek the _____ of others 25b-26

25b *if perhaps God may grant them repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth, 26 and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, having been held captive by him to do his will.*

if perhaps God may grant them repentance

Acts 11:18 ...God has granted to the Gentiles also the **repentance** that leads to life.

Ephesians 2:7 in order that in the ages to come He might show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

2 Corinthians 7:10-11 For the sorrow that is according to the will of God produces a **repentance** without regret, leading to salvation, but the sorrow of the world produces death. 11 For behold what earnestness this very thing, this godly sorrow, has produced in you: what vindication of yourselves, what indignation, what fear, what longing, what zeal, what avenging of wrong! In everything you demonstrated yourselves to be innocent in the matter.

Acts 20:21 solemnly testifying to both Jews and Greeks of **repentance** toward God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

leading to the knowledge of the truth,

and they may come to their senses

escape from the snare of the devil

having been held captive by him to do his will.

1 Corinthians 10:13 ...will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the **temptation** will provide the way of escape also, that you may be able to endure it.

2 Peter 2:9 how to rescue the godly from **temptation**

1 John 1:9 if we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to **forgive** us our sins and to **cleanse** us from all unrighteousness.

Take Home:

A Gentleness is a Christlike quality for _____ believer—dependently pursue it.

B Evangelism toward difficult people is not only to reach them, but to grow _____

C Pray for God to _____ hearts to the gospel.

Ezekiel 36:26 *I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.*

John 3:3 *Jesus answered and said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God."*

QUESTIONS FOR GROWTH IN CHRIST

1. Does the secular world or the modern church value gentleness? Why or why not?
2. Why is gentleness required in dealing with people, and how does gentleness glorify God?
3. How can we have unbending convictions but still remain gentle with those who oppose the truth?
4. How do you balance refuting those who contradict in Titus 1:9 and seeking the salvation of the opposition here?
5. Why does Paul call Timothy to be concerned about the salvation of those who are opponents to the truth?
6. What great truths encouraged you from this passage about God's provision of salvation?
7. What steps will you take this week in order to become gentle, yet intense, about the salvation of others?

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