SERMON SERIES: THE DIFFERENCE HE MAKES

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Sermon title:

"The Difference He Makes: GENTLENESS"

Introduction

We are nearing the conclusion of The Difference He Makes. In this week of our series, we are discussing the fruit of the Spirit which is gentleness. These past few weeks we have been walking through each fruit of the Spirit, learning about the difference they make in our lives through the Holy Spirit. Sometimes we equate gentleness with weakness, though Jesus tells us otherwise in the Bible.

- When was the last time you had to ask for help with something you were too weak to do
 on your own? (Moving a couch, opening a pickle jar, reaching the top shelf, etc.)
- If you could have one superpower, what would it be?

Seek the Word

Read Mattew 11:28-30.

- What might the people be weary and burdened by in this passage? Can you name specific aspects of life that may cause weariness?
- What is the "rest" mentioned by Jesus?
- How is the yoke of Jesus different than the yoke of the Law that the people were following?
- What does this passage tell us about the power of Jesus?

Go Deeper

Throughout the Bible there are examples of gentle (or meek) people used by God. Create a list of a few different gentle people in the Bible and a sentence or two about how God used them.

Talk About It

- What difference does the yoke of Jesus make in your life, knowing you are not bound to the Old Testament laws?
- Matthew 5:5 says, "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth." Is it difficult to think that God has plans to bless the gentlehearted? Why?
- How have you experienced gentleness in your own life? Is there an example of gentleness that stands out to you?
- Who in your life can you show gentleness to this week? Share a specific scenario that you can be gentle in.

Wrap Up

Reminder: Gentleness opens the door for meaningful connections and conversations.

Challenge: Before you go to sleep each night this week, set a timer for one minute. Use this minute to pray, asking God to reveal to you how you could have been more gentle that day. Then, set another timer for one more minute. Use that minute to pray, asking God to help you be more gentle the next day.