

Tuesday, August 30, 2016

Matthew 5:5 "Blessed are the gentle, for they shall inherit the earth.

A young couple had just lost their only child, a beautiful three-year-old daughter. They struggled to reconcile their loss with their faith in a loving God. They decided to go to their minister for help. "It was God's will," was all the preacher would say.

The couple couldn't understand how their daughter's death could somehow serve God's will, and they went to another preacher friend. He quoted yards of Scripture, trying to give them comfort, but the verses fell on deaf ears.

Finally, the young couple turned to an elderly woman in their church. Surely she could explain the reason for their loss. But the old woman didn't say a word. Instead, she tenderly wrapped her arms around the heartbroken couple, and together they cried through the hurt.

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.

Sometimes theological answers don't satisfy the difficult hardships of life. It's not that the Bible doesn't have sufficient answers, it absolutely does. But in those times we may just need to be quiet. When answers don't come and pain seems to close the ears of the hurting, our best counsel is sometimes just quiet compassion and gentleness. There will be time for advice later, after pain's tears have made the heart soft to receive it.

A young man was on the edge of panic as he lay on the operating table. He noticed one nurse watching him intently. He called her over and whispered, "Would you mind holding my hand?" She gripped it, allowing the man to lay calmly waiting for the operation.

What a strong thing gentleness is! It can conquer a person's fears and cool a burning pain; even in the face of life's most serious hardships.