

**I. EMBRACING MEEKNESS - THE PREMIER NEED FOR THE CHURCH**

- A. Meekness is the main attribute that God is looking for in His human companions. Jesus' whole life was ordered around this attribute. He loved walking in it (*Ps 45:4-7*) and it most qualified Him for future glory (*Phil 2:8-10*.) From the moment Jesus was born, the Father contemplated His own humility. Anyone who truly looks at Jesus and His meekness will be left staring at a great mystery as He is so strong and is the One who stoops down so low to rescue us.

***Mt 11:29 Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart,***

- B. Those who walk in meekness cannot be bought or swayed by things on the earth. They are restful on the inside as they already have more than the earth could give. A life without meekness is not a resting place for God. Yet when we walk in meekness, we are at rest in this life.

***Mt 5:5 Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth***

***Jam 4:1-2 “Where do wars and fights come from among you? Do they not come from your desires from pleasure that war in your members? You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war.”***

**II. PRIMARY REALITY - FRIENDSHIP WITH GOD AND MEEKNESS WITH OTHERS**

- A. One of our greatest questions of life must be answered if we are truly walking out meekness and the fullness God has for you and I. That is “what makes us successful?” That answer is, “*I am loved by God and I love Him back.*” The answer is foundational to who you and I really are. We then live with God as our source and not our promotion, job, or those things that may be related to it. It is here we have the Holy Spirit’s power on our hearts even in difficulty. If established wrongly, then our lives are filled with strife even with blessings.

- B. God gives us King David as an example of one who had a radical paradigm in the way he established his identity, sense of value, or importance and how he measured his success.

***Ps 18:35 Your gentleness has made me great.***

***Jn 21:17 He said to him the third time, “Simon....do you love Me?” Peter...said, “Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You.”***

- C. When our primary identity in life is to be one who is “loved and a lover” we are successful before God. Our primary attitude will be to grow in meekness or servant of heart, as one faithful in small things. Only here can we have clarity on our secondary identity (our calling, function, or who God made us to be in front of others) because it will change in life.

**III. TRAINED IN MEEKNESS- LESSONS FROM KING DAVID’S LIFE**

- A. God gives us King David as an example of a lover of God who even in weakness walked in integrity in his heart before God and responded to God in moments of failure.

*Is 55:3-4 The sure mercies of David.<sup>4</sup> Indeed I have given him as a witness to the people, A leader and commander for the people.*

- B. *Behind the scenes-* David was called King in Bethlehem but was trained in tasks while going deep in God. This translates to us supporting others in mundaneness without us thinking it will contribute to our promotion. *1 Samuel 16:13*
- Luke 19:13 and he said to him, 'Well done, good servant; because you were faithful in a very little, have authority over ten cities.'*
- C. *Praise and adversity-* This relates to the birth of something God puts in our hearts. David was anointed King again in the city of Hebron and then again in Jerusalem. This translates to us given places to impact others with power while misunderstandings, conflicts, frustrations with setbacks, and the praises of people are all happening. *2 Samuel 2:4; 5:3* It requires meekness to not lose our primary identity as a servant when God releases great power and influence.
- D. *Endurance-* David received his calling in Bethlehem at age 17 and had to endure until age 37 to become king of all Israel. This translates into you and I having a “marathon” perspective as we endure to walk out our full destiny in Jesus. *1 Samuel 16:12-13*
- Heb 10:36 For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise:*
- E. *Pain and perplexity-* This relates to the death or seeming end to a thing God has put in our hearts. It requires meekness to see we are being prepared to actually walk out the vision or thing God is doing. *1 Samuel 21-30*; David was probably in his mid 20s or early 30s. It was in this season God used a demonized king (Saul) to teach David meekness through mistreatment.
- Ps 27:13-14 I would have lost heart, unless I had believed That I would see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.<sup>14</sup> Wait on the Lord; Be of good courage, And He shall strengthen your heart; Wait, I say, on the Lord!*
- Ps 16:8 I set the Lord always before me; because He is at my right hand I shall not be moved.*
- F. Even in his weakness, David was honored as one who did all the will of God, by God. David finished His life with the same passion he began with, but with much more maturity as He flourished as one who loved God and pursued meekness.
- Ps 101:2 I will behave wisely in a perfect way. Oh, when will You come to me? I will walk within my house with a perfect heart.*
- Acts 13:26 “For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell asleep, was buried with his fathers, and saw corruption;*
- Ps 37:11 But the meek shall inherit the earth and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace.*