

AA20. Being Gentle.

We are to be gentle to all whom we encounter.

This precept is derived from His Word (blessed is He):

Key New Testament Scriptures

Ephesians 4:2

Always be humble, gentle and patient, bearing with one another in love,

1 Thessalonians 2:7

As emissaries of the Messiah, we could have made our weight felt; but instead, we were gentle when we were with you, like a mother feeding and caring for her children.

2 Timothy 2:25

Also he should be gentle as he corrects his opponents. For God may perhaps grant them the opportunity to turn from their sins, acquire full knowledge of the truth,..

Titus 3:1-2

Remind people to submit to the government and its officials, to obey them, to be ready to do any honorable kind of work, to slander no one, to avoid quarrelling, to be friendly, and to behave gently towards everyone.

Additional New Testament Scriptures

2 Corinthians 10:1 (NKJ)

Galatians 5:22-23 (NKJ)

Philippians 4:5

Colossians 3:12

1 Timothy 6:11

Related New Testament Mitzvot

RA04 Correcting One Another with Humility and Gentleness

Supportive Tanakh Scriptures

Proverbs 15:1

A gentle response deflects fury, but a harsh word makes tempers rise.

Proverbs 25:15

With patience a ruler may be won over, and a gentle tongue can break bones.

Comment

Being gentle is not just being nice. Gentleness is a godly trait that shows care and respect for others while withholding one's own power and ability to be harsh in one's dealings. It requires humility in deferring vexing and contentious matters to God instead of taking matters into one's own hands.

Related Mitzvot in Volumes 1 & 2

N01 Loving Our Neighbor, the Stranger, and Even Our Enemy

N16 Nursing Anger Toward Our Neighbor

N18 Being Compassionate & Merciful Toward Our Neighbor