Diving Deeper into Discipleship

August 15, 2021 | Pastor Pete Fowler

More: Your God is Too Small—Meek and Mild

Sermon Reflection Questions:

- Praise God for His abounding love toward us—a love that is slow to anger, gentle and compassionate.
- When you think of the words "meek" and "mild" what things/ideas come to mind? How do those mental images compare with what is revealed about God, especially in the Person of Jesus?
- Does your life reflect the meekness of Jesus? Is the strength of your life tamed and well-trained? Do you respond to injustice "at the right time, in the right measure, and for the right reason?"
- Pray that the Church would model examples given by Jesus for when and how to respond with passion and conviction: the care of the vulnerable, the confrontation of hypocrisy, the exposure of exploitation, and the sacrificial relinquishing of rights for the benefit of others.

Devotional Reading and Reflection

- **John 10:1-18** | How does an understanding of Jesus as the “Good Shepherd” relate to our understanding of Him as “meek and mild?”
- **Exodus 34:4-7** | What does this passage teach us about the balance within God’s character of gentleness and justice?
- **Isaiah 57:15** | According to this verse, what are some advantages to being “lowly in spirit?”

Self-Care Discipline

August Discipline: Celebration

"Creativity" | from *Celebration of Discipline* by Richard Foster, pg 190, 198

- Celebration is at the heart of the way of Christ. He entered the world on a high note of jubilation: “I bring you good news of a great joy,” cried the angel, “which shall come to all the people” (Luke 2:10). He left the world bequeathing His joy to the disciples: “These things I have spoken to you that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full” (John 15:11).
- A third way to encourage celebration is to accent the creative gifts of fantasy and imagination. We who follow Christ can risk going against the cultural tide. Let’s see visions and dream dreams. Let’s play, sing, laugh. The imagination can release a flood of creative ideas, and it can be lots of fun. Only those who are insecure about their own maturity will fear such a delightful form of celebration.
- Let us also relish the creativity of others. Those who create paintings, plays, and music are a great gift to us. Find ways in which you can support your local artists! It is great fun and builds community.

Notes