

Paul's Ponderings

Gentleness is a fruit of the Spirit, but, wow, what a counter-culture concept! Way back in 1839, theologian George Washington Bethune said, "There may be no grace less prayed for, or cultivated, than gentleness." It sure isn't a commonly desired quality.



Paul Stasi
Executive Director

Gentleness, or meekness, is often undervalued because it is misunderstood. Many equate meekness as spinelessness or being soft. For men, and as a man, gentleness is one of those topics that seems to be a weakness. When Israel thought of their Messiah coming, they believed that he would be a warrior coming in battle to save their people from oppression. But, Yeshua, Jesus, came as a lamb, or suffering servant.

The Greek word used for gentleness means strength under control. This word is also used when referring to a wild stallion who has been tamed. A tamed horse has strength for the master's use. Gentleness is the counterpart of anger. It involves submission to the Lord. Humble strength is what God expects. It requires great strength and self-control. Gentleness comes from a state of humility. It is an outflow of the love of God.

*Let Your
Gentleness be
Evident to All*

Gentleness doesn't mean being a door mat. It means not over-reacting. It brings many blessings in our lives. Someone who lacks gentleness is often prideful and easily angered or feels the need for revenge. But gentleness disarms critics. It defuses conflict as Proverbs 15:1 tells us. Jesus said, the truly strong are the gentle, (Mat. 5:5). God blesses those who are gentle, or meek. We need to think . . . do I have a teachable spirit, and a repenting heart? Is it marked by a trusting faith? Gentleness is developed in trials. God knows what He is doing as He desires to help us be like His Son.

Many who come to us for help have gone through many trials, they are often in "the pit" of life. Our prayer is that through these trials, they can gain this gentle spirit and a closer relationship with God.

It is only by your continued gifts that we can share His love with those who come to us broken. You are part of this transitional life-change that we get to see every day. For that, we thank you!

Paul

Simplify Your Life in Three Steps

Does your life feel chaotic? Do you wish to experience greater peace? Here are three ways to create margin and find rest today:

1. Set limits. Create rules around screen time, commitments, errands, and work.
2. Declutter. Simplify and organize your spaces for a clearer mind.
3. Plan for the future. Have you created your estate plan? Long-term planning brings peace of mind and is quite a simple process.



To learn more, request our free bulletin "6 Ways to Experience More Peace Today."

Contact Angela A. Washington at (904) 421-5147 or awashington@crmjax.org Visit christianwill.org/crm to bless your family with an up-to-date will.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

City Rescue Mission is in need of the following:

- Loading dock ramp - \$15,000
- White twin sheet sets and pillows
- White towels and washcloths
- Travel size shampoo, conditioner, and body wash
- Bus passes - 3 day passes - \$12/7 day passes - \$20
- White, large draw string laundry bags for student use (120)
- Gently used or new furniture, clothing, home goods, books and more for the CRM Thrift Store
- Replacement of Dental Clinic flooring: Cost \$15,000.
1 gift of \$15,000, 2 gifts of \$7,500, or 3 gifts of \$3,000
- Replacement of 4th floor flooring in offices and classrooms:
Cost \$42,000 1 gift of \$42,000, or 2 gifts of \$21,000,
or 4 gifts of \$10,500 or 8 gifts of \$5,250
- Five adult bicycles with wide seats

Contact Angela A. Washington at
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awashington@crmjax.org



CITY RESCUE MISSION

CRMjax.org



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New Life NEWS

APRIL 2023



CRM

CITY RESCUE MISSION



TAMBARA'S STORY

After drugs, depression and her mother's death, Tambara hit rock bottom. She found a new life at City Rescue Mission through the LifeBuilders Program.

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Tambara's Story

Before I was introduced to drugs in the 80's, I was a very productive person in society. After losing my job and not being able to find another one, I slipped into depression and felt bad for myself because I watched my world start to change. As soon as I started to use, my life began to spiral out of control. I quickly entered a rehab program, got through it, and returned to my hometown, Detroit, Michigan. While there, my mother put me in another rehabilitation program that I got through and then my mother passed. I hit complete rock bottom at that point, I lost custody of my son, became homeless and decided to come back to Jacksonville in 1990. I wasn't looking for any help, I had little to no understanding about my relationship with God because I was brought up being a part of so many different religions. I was confused.



I entered City Rescue Mission in 2006, after simply walking past a mirror and not recognizing myself and being devastated at who I had become. I immediately entered the LifeBuilders program and was able to begin my in-depth relationship with God. I knew as soon as I came into the program, I could not go back to the life I once lived. I started attending church and receiving the tools I needed to really understand God and His character. That changed everything

for me. I was able to regain trust and love from my family and my life began to fall back into place bit by bit.

City Rescue Mission prepared me to go back out into the world. The counseling sessions helped me get back in touch with my emotions, understand the roots of my issues and several classes showed me healthy solutions to things I may come across or must deal with. My dedication to becoming a better version of myself provided an opportunity to work full time in the Women's Emergency services at the Mission. This was a testimony to what God was doing in my life.

There are many people struggling with addiction that do not want to do it anymore. They are victims of circumstances. City Rescue Mission takes these people and shows them that there are people that care for them and want the best for them, not only physically and mentally but spiritually. This is why it is so important to support the mission.

*Before coming to CRM
I was truly messed up,
Since coming to the mission,
I am brand new.*



For my son to tell me that I am now a great inspiration to him does my heart good. I, along with many others, have transformed our lives here. Thank you City Rescue Mission for Everything.

8th ANNUAL DIFFERENCE MAKERS BANQUET

Featuring The Comedy of The Water Coolers



the water coolers
The comedy group that sings



**A Limited Amount
of Tickets Are
Still Available!!**

**8th ANNUAL DIFFERENCE
MAKERS BANQUET**

Thursday May 4, 2023
Seating begins at 6 p.m.
Banquet begins at 6:30 p.m.

Southbank Hotel Jacksonville Riverwalk
1515 Prudential Drive
Jacksonville, FL 32207

Tickets: Individual \$140 Table (10 seats) \$1400
CONTACT: Angela Washington
(904) 421-5147 or crmdevelopment@crmjax.org

Thrift Store



Support CRM
Visit Us Often



7200 Normandy
Hours 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Donation drop off:
10 a.m. - 5 p.m.



SAVE THE DATE

CRM UPCOMING EVENTS

GOLF
CRM'S 15TH ANNUAL
CHAMPION'S
CHALLENGE GOLF
TOURNAMENT

Monday, August 28
TPC Sawgrass Stadium Course



FALL LIFEBUILDERS GRADUATION,
SEPTEMBER 29, 2023

JOIN US in celebrating our Fall graduates at City Rescue Mission's McDuff Campus: 426 S. McDuff Avenue, Jacksonville, FL 32254.

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

THANK YOU to the volunteers and churches who serve daily meals or serve for special events!



Thank you HIRE PURPOSE for the volunteer projects you do at CRM!



THANK YOU to the volunteers who lead Bible Studies and Groups!



THANK YOU to volunteers who help with projects or drives for CRM!

