



## THEME OF THE MONTH

# Gentleness

***Showing consideration and personal concern for others.  
(Gentleness vs. Harshness)***

1. polite, refined, chivalrous, noble
2. Not severe, rough or violent - peaceful (meekness)
3. Kindly, amiable, mild, soft (in word or deed)
4. Characteristic of good birth, honorable, respectable

### **Why is Gentleness Important?**

*“Happy is the land whose king is a noble leader.”*

**Ecclesiastes 10:17 NLT**

*“A king detests wrongdoing, for his rule is built on justice.”*

**Proverbs 16:12 NLT**

*“People with understanding control their anger; a hot temper shows great foolishness.”*

**Proverbs 14:29 NLT**

*“A peaceful heart leads to a healthy body...”*

**Proverbs 14:30 NLT**

## How Do We Practice Gentleness?

1. Reach out and build relationships
2. Daily practice the Golden Rule
3. Choose your words and actions carefully
4. Defuse temper (in yourself and others)
5. Keep the peace and consider the needs of others



## MAT CHAT TALKING POINTS

1. How could harshness affect your personal relationships with others?
2. Name some who has demonstrated gentleness to you. How can you follow this person's example in your own life?
3. What clues can you look for to see through anger or fear to uncover a person's true emotion?
4. How should you respond when others attack you verbally?
5. When you consider all things we have in our possession are gifts of God, how should we show gentleness in the handling of our possessions?
6. What is the "gentle" way to share bad news with someone?
7. What impact does "gentleness" have on others? How does it affect their lives?
8. How can you treat someone well, even if you don't like him or her?
9. Why should you treat others the way you would want to be treated?
10. When you see harshness being demonstrated in your own life (anger, silence, arrogance, withdrawal, aggression, avoidance), what should you do?

### Talking Points:

Value People: Everyone is a unique creation of God, and should be valued as such. No one in the earth is exactly like you (or anyone else).

Respect Property: Everything we have comes from God, and we are only caretakers of the small portion of His vast Kingdom He has placed in our care.

Demonstrate Care: God cared enough to give His very best, His Son, for each of us. If He cared so much for all mankind, so should we.

Resolve Conflict: Anger and impatience divide people. Love and forgiveness bring people together. If we can't forgive others for their faults, neither can God forgive us.