***The Power of Gentleness*** *Provers 15:1 James 3:10-4:3*

*Matthew 5:5, Galatians 5:22-23, Philippians 4:5, Galatians 6:1, Hebrews 5:2, I Peter 3:15*

*Proverbs 15:1 “A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.”*

*James 3:10-4:3 “Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be. 11Can both fresh water and salt water flow from the same spring?... 13Who in your community is understanding and wise? Let his example, which is marked by wisdom and gentleness, blaze a trail for others. 14If your heart is one that bleeds dark streams of jealousy and selfishness, do not be so proud that you ignore your depraved state. 15The wisdom of this world should never be mistaken for heavenly wisdom; it originates below in the earthly realms, with the demons. 16Any place where you find jealousy and selfish ambition, you will discover chaos and evil thriving under its rule. 17Heavenly wisdom centers on purity, peace, gentleness, deference, mercy, and other good fruits untainted by hypocrisy. 18The seed that flowers into righteousness will always be planted in peace by those who embrace peace.”*

*James 4:5-6 “5Do you think it is empty rhetoric when the Scriptures say, “The spirit that lives in us is addicted to envy and jealousy”? 6You may think that the situation is hopeless, but God gives us more grace when we turn away from our own interests.”*

*Galatians 2:20 “I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.”*

*Isaiah 40:10-11 “See, the Sovereign Lord comes with power, and he rules with a mighty arm.11He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young.”*

*Isaiah 42:1-3 “Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him, and he will bring justice to the nations. 2He will not shout or cry out, or raise his voice in the streets.3A bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out.”*

*Zechariah 9:9 “Look—your King is coming; He is righteous and able to save. He comes seated humbly on a donkey, on a colt, a foal of a donkey.”*

*Matthew 11:29 “Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls.”*

*I Thessalonians 2:7 “But we were gentle among you, just as a nursing mother cherishes her own children.”*

*2 Timothy 2:24-25 “And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient, 25in humility correcting those who are in opposition…”*

*James 1:21 “Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.”*

*The top verses where I just put the verse without the text do not need to be put on a slide – I am just going to read those passages. But I wanted people to have the verses so they could look them up on their own.*