

Sermon Series: Life's Healing Choices

THE COMMITMENT CHOICE

MATTHEW 5:5

INTRODUCTION

- ✘ Week one was the reality choice.
- ✘ Realize I'm not God. Admit I'm powerless to control my tendency to do the wrong thing and my life is unmanageable.
- ✘ Week two is the hope choice. To earnestly believe that God exists, that I matter to him and he has the power to help me change.

INTRODUCTION (CONT'D)

- ✘ Today is the commitment choice.
- ✘ To consciously choose to commit all my life and will to Christ's care and control.
- ✘ Matthew 5:5, "*Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.*"

INTRODUCTION (CONT'D)

- ✘ In the original language of the Bible the word for meek is *praeis*, which has different levels of meaning.
- ✘ On the surface it can mean mild or humble.
- ✘ In the Greek, the word was often used to describe animals whose naturally wild spirit had to be broken by a trainer.

INTRODUCTION (CONT'D)

- ✘ Meekness is strength under control.
- ✘ 1 Peter 2:21-23 (NLT), *“Jesus who suffered for you is your example. Follow in his steps. He never sinned and he never deceived anyone. He did not retaliate when he was insulted. When he suffered, he did not threaten to get even. He left his case in the hands of God who always judges fairly.”*

INTRODUCTION (CONT'D)

- ✘ Meekness has always been God's way for humanity.
- ✘ Numbers 12:3 (RSV) says, "*Now the man Moses was very meek, more than all men that were on the face of the earth.*"

I. MEEKNESS MEANS ANKNOWLEDGING:

- ✘ 1. God's holiness.
- ✘ 2. Confidence in who I am.
- ✘ Deuteronomy 10:17 (MSG), “God, your God, is the God of all gods, he’s the master of all masters, a God, immense and powerful and awesome.”

MEEKNESS MEANS ACKNOWLEDGING:

- ✘ It's also a confidence in whose I am.
- ✘ 1 John 5:1 (NLT), *“Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is a child of God.”*

II. STEPS TO MEEKNESS

- × 1. Consciously-“It’s my decision.”
- ×
- × 2. Consistently- “I must do it daily.”

- × Are you going to choose your agenda or God’s each day?

STEPS TO MEEKNESS (CONT'D)

- ✘ Romans 6:16 (NLT), *“Don’t you realize that whatever you choose to obey becomes your master? You can choose sin, [your way, your path your agenda] but that leads ultimately to death, or you can choose to obey God and receive his approval.”*

STEPS TO MEEKNESS (CONT'D)

- × 3. Completely-I must give everything.
- × Luke 14:33 (NLT), “No one can become my disciple without giving up everything for me.”
- × All my life and will.

STEPS TO MEEKNESS (CONT'D)

- ✘ It's all about Christ's care and control.
- ✘ Because He loves you.
- ✘ Matthew 11:29, *“Come to me, all of you who are weary and over-burdened, and I will give you rest.”*

STEPS TO MEEKNESS (CONT'D)

- ✘ When you give him everything you can rest on the fact that he's God and you're not.
- ✘ There are rewards down this path.
- ✘ *Blessings*
- ✘ *Favor*
- ✘ *Character transformation*

STEPS TO MEEKNESS (CONT'D)

- ✘ John 10:10 (MSG), *“I came so that they can have real and eternal life, more and better life than they ever dreamed of.”*

INVITATION

- ✘ Will you commit all of your life and will over to the care and control of Christ?
- ✘ To make that commitment you have to be meek.
- ✘ Make the commitment to step across the line and live the abundant life in Jesus Christ.