

Gentleness

Welcome to this time of Quiet Reflection. Take your time reading to yourself (or out loud) some or all of these bible passages, and then pausing for a few minutes after any that you wish to reflect on.

The Taize chants between readings can be sung in your head as often as you like, or out loud, or listened to from these links, pausing as you wish:

Jesus remember me - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r6tVReXsioM>

Nothing can trouble - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aRsxU_3-fpk

O Lord hear my prayer - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2nCy2j07ECM>

Beginning

*Jesus, remember me
When you come into your kingdom.*

Deuteronomy 31

Then Moses recited the words of this song, to the very end, in the hearing of the whole assembly of Israel:

Give ear, O heavens, and I will speak;
let the earth hear the words of my mouth.
May my teaching drop like the rain,
my speech condense like the dew;
like gentle rain on grass,
like showers on new growth.
For I will proclaim the name of the Lord;
ascribe greatness to our God!



Isaiah 40

The Lord God will feed his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms,
and carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead the mother sheep.



*Jesus, remember me
When you come into your kingdom.*

Proverbs 15

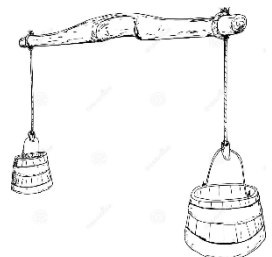
A soft answer turns away wrath,
but a harsh word stirs up anger.
A gentle tongue is a tree of life,
but perverseness in it breaks the spirit.

Hosea 11

Yet it was I who taught Ephraim to walk,
I took them up in my arms;
but they did not know that I healed them.
I led them with cords of human kindness,
with bands of love.
I was to them like those
who lift infants to their cheeks.
I bent down to them and fed them.

Matthew 19

Jesus said 'Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.'



*Jesus, remember me
When you come into your kingdom.*

Titus 3

Remind them to be ready for every good work, to speak evil of no one, to avoid quarrelling, to be gentle, and to show every courtesy to everyone.



James 3

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. The wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

*Nothing can trouble,
nothing can frighten.
Those who seek God
shall never go wanting.
Nothing can trouble,
nothing can frighten.
God alone fills us.*

Galatians 5

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things.

Ephesians 3

I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.



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Philippians 4

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

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Passage to be read slowly – imagine being there....

John 8

The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery;

and making her stand before all of them, they said to him, ‘Teacher, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery. Now in the law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?’

They said this to test him, so that they might have some charge to bring against him. Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground.

When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, ‘Let anyone among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.’

And once again he bent down and wrote on the ground.

When they heard it, they went away, one by one, beginning with the elders; and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him. Jesus straightened up and said to her, ‘Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?’

She said, ‘No one, sir.’

And Jesus said, ‘Neither do I condemn you. Go your way, and from now on do not sin again.’

Time for Silent Prayer

*O Lord hear my prayer.
O Lord hear my prayer.
When I call, answer me.
O Lord hear my prayer.
O Lord hear my prayer.
Come and listen to me.*

*O Lord hear my prayer.
O Lord hear my prayer.
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Come and listen to me.*

The King of love my shepherd is

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YcCwUF0s_-Y

The King of love my shepherd is,
whose goodness faileth never.
I nothing lack if I am his,
and he is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow,
my ransomed soul he leadeth;
and where the verdant pastures grow,
with food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish, oft I strayed,
but yet in love he sought me;
and on his shoulder gently laid,
and home, rejoicing, brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill,
with thee, dear Lord, beside me;
thy rod and staff my comfort still,
thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
thy unction grace bestoweth;
and oh, what transport of delight
from thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days,
thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house forever.

Ending

God of power,
may the boldness of your Spirit transform us,
may the gentleness of your Spirit lead us,
may the gifts of your Spirit equip us to serve and
worship you
now and always.
Amen.