AL 102 LIFE OF LEARNERS GALATIANS 5:22-23

1. Gal. 5:23, "But the fruit of the spirit is...meekness"
2. Mt. 11:29, "Learn of me for I am meek and lowly..."
3. Ps. 25:9, "The meek shall He guide in judgements and the meek will He teach His ways"
4. Ps. 147:6, "The Lord lifted up the meek..."
5. Num. 12:3, "Now the man Moses was very meek..."
6. Mt. 5:5, "Blessed are the meek for they shall inherit the earth."
7. Col. 3:12, "Put on therefore as the elect of God, meekness..."
8. I Pet. 3:4, "The ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price."

Let's study "MEEKNESS" with the thought in mind of getting "GOD'S CONCEPT" of MEEKNESS; not man's.

I IN MODERN DAY WORLDLY THINKING MEEKNESS ISN'T A COVETED QUALITY WHILE THERE IS HARDLY A CHARACTERISTIC WHICH BETTER DISTINGUISHES CHRISTIANITY.
- The world sees what meekness misses but not what it possesses. What it gives up, but not what it secures.
- The world knows the meek as those who do not push, trample or shout for retaliation.
- They are elbowed out of the way, seem to count for little, yet Jesus says they shall inherit the earth.

II BECAUSE WE CANNOT BE MEEK OF OURSELVES IS PRECISELY WHY MEEKNESS IS THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT AND COMES ONLY AS THE HOLY SPIRIT CONTROLS OUR LIVES.

III MEEKNESS KNOWS SPIRITUAL INHERITANCE COMES NOT BY SLAYING ONES RIVAL, BUT BY THE SLAYING OF ONESELF.

IV THE MEEK REALIZE THE EARTH WILL NEVER BE INHERITED BY THE GRABBERS, FIGHTERS, STRIVERS AND TAKERS. The meek are designed by God to possess all of His things.

V THE MEEK REALIZE INHERITANCE IS A MATTER OF RELATIONSHIP, NOT A MATTER OF POSSESSION.

VI MEEKNESS IS SO POSITIVE IT DOES NOT NEED TO ASSERT ITSELF.
-Meekness and self-assertion are opposites of each other.

VII THE CHARACTER OF ONE WHO HAS THE POWER TO RETALIATE, YET REMAINS KIND.
- It is strength under control.

VIII MEEKNESS ISN'T NATURAL TO THE CARNAL MAN. It is not a natural disposition or psychological makeup, but grows in the garden of the Holy Spirit.

IX MEEKNESS IS AN ATTITUDE OF SUBMISSION AND YIELDEDNESS TO GOD WHICH RESULTS IN THE HARNESSING OF OUR STRENGTH IN GODLY WAYS TOWARD MANKIND.

X MEEKNESS IS AN ATTITUDE TOWARD GOD WHICH MANIFESTS ITSELF IN GENTLENESS TOWARDS OTHERS.

AL 103 LANGUAGE OF LEARNERS

The strange sound of these words should help us realize how little we know about this fruit of meekness.

Jo. 5:19 "The Son can do nothing of himself."
Jo. 5:30 "I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me."
Jo. 6:38 "I come ---- not to do mine own will---"
Jo. 7:28 "I am not come of myself---"
Jo. 8:28 "I do nothing of myself----"
Jo. 15:5 "I am the vine, you are the branches: for without me ye can do nothing."

1. Jesus Christ was willing to be nothing so God could be all. He gave Himself with His will and life entirely for the Father's work.
2. Let us be willing to be like Him for God's glory.
3. Let's think upon some more thoughts that will help us to understand this heavenly fruit-meekness.

I. THE MEEK DO NOT EXALT THEMSELVES.
Jesus' life of complete surrender, dependence, trust and obedience and desire to glorify God is our example.

II. THE MEEK DO NOT HAVE THE DESIRE FOR INDEPENDENCE WHICH WAS THE TEMPTATION IN THE GARDEN AND TODAY.

-Paul said: "It is no longer I, but Christ"
"For me to live is Christ"

III. THE MEEKS INTEREST IS NOT HIMSELF, HIS CLAIMS, HIS DIGNITY OR POSITION BUT THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

IV. MEEKNESS IS THE ESSENTIAL INGREDIENT OF CHILD-LIKE FAITH THAT JUST TRUSTS HIS FATHER.

V. THE MEEK ARE SECURE IN GOD, SO ARE NOT THREATENED AT EVERY POINT IN LIFE.

VI. THE MEEK DO NOT HAVE A QUICK TEMPER AND MOUTH FILLED WITH NEGATIVE AND MEAN WORDS.

VII. THE MEEK CAN EASILY FIND THINGS TO REJOICE AND BE THANKFUL ABOUT RATHER THAN WHAT THEY DO NOT HAVE.

VIII. THE MEEK ARE WILLING TO BE INJURED RATHER THAN TO INJURE.

IX. THE MEEK CAN FACE TRUTHS ABOUT THEMSELVES WITHOUT RESENTMENT AND RETALIATION.

X. THE MEEK ARE NOT CAUGHT UP IN THE WORLDS' MAD LUST AND PURSUIT OF FAME AND FORTUNE.

XI. THE MEEK ARE OVERTAKEN BY SUCCESS BECAUSE OF FAITHFULNESS TO GOD AND HIS KINGDOM WORK.

XII. MEEKNESS IS LOVE WHICH SEEKS FIRST NOT ITS OWN BUT THE THINGS OF GOD AND OTHERS.

ATTITUDE FOR LEARNING SERIES

AL 104 LEARNERS NEVER STOP LEARNING - Col. 3:1-16

- That which is not growing is dying. Things or people never stay the same - You, The Center, Home, Country - always changing.
- This passage provides some guidelines for spiritual learners.

I. CONTINUOUS SEEKING - 3:1

- "Seek" aim at, continuously strive after, covet "things above". Not phantoms, but priceless spiritual treasure that can enrich life down here. Word knowledge-faith.
- Not just to discover its value, as one does a college degree, but to obtain its benefits and rewards. Heb. 11:6 "Rewarder"

II. CONTINUOUS THINKING 3:2

- "Set your affections"(mind)fixed, immovable position, direct and keep on keeping.
- Recognize knowing importance and value is not enough.
- Going beyoun discovery to obtaining -possessing "Not on things on earth" - most cut out sinful, but it is those things not wrong or harmful except when pursued to exclusion "Above".
- In preferences: more attractive or important to you.

III. CONTINUOUS REMOVING 3:5

- "Mortify" - make dead, slay utterly, deprive of power, destroy strength.
1- Impurities and covetousness (easier settled as wrong).
2- Attitudes and speech 3:8 "Put off" - command to cast off, throw away, consider as foreign to you and your new life in Christ.
- "Anger" abiding, settled feeling - habitual.
- "Wrath" sudden violent anger - fiery outburst - boiling agitation.
- "Malice" desire to injury, settled cruelty, rejoices in evil to others.
- "Blasphemy" slander, speech injurious to another's name, insult.
- "Filthy communication" foul speaking, obscene speech, abusing language.

IV. CONTINUOUS REPLACING 3:10

- "Put on" - command, envelope, clothe
1- Reproduce the life HE lived, possess the mind of Christ, resemble the "new man - 3:10 which is renewed in knowledge after the image of HIM that created him.
- Ever in process - Remoulding fuller - Continually learn.
2- "As the elect of God" 3:12 qualities that eliminate or reduce frictions.
All These Are Maninfestations of Love:
-"Bowels of mercies" - Heart of Compassion.
-"Kindness" - Gentle sweetness, Gracious Disposition.
-"Humbleness of mind" - Opinion of one's self.
-"Meekness" - Teachable, accept God's dealings as Good - No Disputing.
-"Longsuffering" - Not easily provoked by people - In treatment.
-"Forbearing" - bear with ways and words - Endure correctly - Wisely.
-"Forgive" - To send forth - Send away.
3- "Above all these things, Put on love" 3:14 - the virtue, thread, link-chain that knits all together.

V. CONTINUOUS OUTCOME OF GROWING CHRISTIAN 3:14-15

- Let "Peace of God" tranquility of heart, rest and contentment.
1- { A - Past forgiven B - Present ruled by God C - Future secured
"Rule" Unpires conflict of motives, impulses, reasons, steps in to decide which prevails (safe or out).
2- { Let "Word dwell in you" unrestricted liberty, yield to, at home.
"Richly" abundantly, Holy Spirit uses to guide and teach.
- Deeply implanted to extent (controls thinking & action.
- Not scanty foothold but large liberal occupancy.
3- Three terms with idea of joyousness as result of 3:15-16 "Psalms" Old Test. "Hymns" Christian composition - "Spiritual Songs" impromptu rhymic utterances produced under influence of the Holy Spirit (Scholarly explanation)

ATTITUDE FOR LEARNING SERIES

AL 101 PREPARATION FOR LEARNING

1 - A brain doctor was asked, "Have you seen many brains?" "Hundreds of them", he said. "Have you ever seen one worn out?" "I've never seen one even slightly used!", he replied.

2 - Direct all these thoughts to LEARNING OF GOD.

I. - LEARNING PROBLEM IS "LACK OF ATTITUDE" NOT "LACK OF ABILITY"

1 - Attitude not Age or Education
2 - Learn and Live - Stop learning and Start Dying

II. - LEARNING KEY IS THE DEVELOPMENT OF "SELF STARTING" ABILITY

1 - Those forced, usually stop when no longer forced, which is the majority.
2 - Controlled by a Satanic resistance to study for learning.

III. - LEARNING LAW OF READINESS

1 - Mental warm-up or pre-heating of the mind.
2 - Starting cold - Depending on a prepared teacher limits you.
3 - Make extra effort to think upon the Word during the day prior to church to build expectancy.

IV. - LEARNING ATTITUDE IS ALERT TO DISTRACTIONS FROM WITHOUT, BUT PRIMARILY FROM WITHIN

1 - How the "Mind Can Travel" while outside posture tells little.

V. - LEARNING'S GREATEST THREAT IS SATISFACTION

1 - Failure to keep searching and seeking - Mt.6:33
2 - Satisfaction is the Land of Stagnation.

VI. - LEARNING IS BEST BY CONSTRUCTIVE - NOT DESTRUCTIVE EVALUATION

1 - Find problems to solve and help, not to "put down".
2 - Major on the positive, not the negative.
3 - What you major on by talk and act reveals your true inward self.

VII. - LEARNING ATTITUDE KNOWS YOUR POTENTIAL

1 - To remember in hearing is 7-10%, increases to 50-70% when write & see.
2 - Train yourself to improve your possibilities.

VIII. - LEARNING LAW OF FAILURE IS FOUNDATIONAL

1 - Failures are just another learning opportunity when viewed correctly.
2 - Negative or positive is just a ccording to your interest.

IX. - LEARNING SKILL TEST

T F Practice makes perfect

T F Experience is the best teacher

T F We learn by doing