

# CONSECRATED IN THE CHAOS

## Chapter 3: Gentleness Within

*“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.”*

*Matthew 5:5*

### **PROSPECTING FOR GOLD**

“The true meaning of the word meek is not summed up in words that form a definition, but rather in the life of a God man who gave it all for you and I.”

Cassidy Campbell, *Consecrated in the Chaos*, page 39

#### *The Main Idea – The Big Questions*

1. In today’s culture, to be meek is seen as being mild, deficient in courage, submissive, and weak. Do you believe this is how Jesus was seen?
2. Describe the man you believe Jesus was when He walked the earth.
3. When you first read this verse, what did you think “*they will inherit the earth*” meant?

### **MINING FOR GOLD**

#### *Making it personal – real life challenges – what do we learn?*

4. How would you describe what some call a “country club” church? What would you say are the attitudes of most of the people who attend churches with this atmosphere?

What is the root of such attitudes?

5. Do you believe Christians today in general “*have gotten so far away from the truth and power of the gospel of the Kingdom of God and have settled for a white robe instead of the adornment of His glory and the rewards of a life lived in wholehearted love and partnership*”? (page 41, *Consecrated in the Chaos*)

If so, how did this happen, and how did it happen so fast?

6. In your opinion, what should the church look like?

“The answer to ‘How can I become meek, humble, and gentle?’ is found in the nature and character of Jesus. It is found as we take just a momentary glimpse of the trinity, the God head itself.”

Cassidy Campbell, Consecrated in the Chaos, page 42

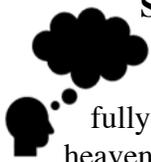
How does this family of God become what we were meant to be?

From where do we start?

## **EXTRACTING THE GOLD**

*Discovering the True & Pure Meaning of Jesus’ Words*

7. Meekness was “*how Jesus proved to all humanity that He was God.*” What was Jesus’ ultimate act of humility?



### **SOMETHING TO PONDER: The Triune God, *Our* Triune God**

This is the greatest mystery in the Bible. It’s the mystery behind all other mysteries in Scripture. Just when we think we have it figured out, we realize we may never fully understand our amazing God – even when we’re face to face with Him (Them) in heaven. What we do know is this: His love for us is as amazing – if not more amazing – than His being, which is probably why He is triune.

YAHWEH = Creator who dwells in His creation. (Genesis 1)

JESUS = Surrendered: His fully God status to become fully man because of love. (John 1:14)

HOLY SPIRIT = His whole function is to make known the heart, will, and nature of the Father and the Son. (John 16:14)

*“The character, the personality, the nature of God Himself is found in the make-up of the word meek.”*

## **BIBLE EXPLORATION**

*Drawing from other examples in Scripture – what do we learn?*

Read the following Scripture passages and answer the questions that follow:

**Becoming Like Christ – Philippians 3:8-10 (emphasis on v. 10) MSG**

*“Yes, all the things I once thought were so important are gone from my life. Compared to the high privilege of knowing Christ Jesus as my Master, firsthand, everything I once thought I had going for me is insignificant—dog dung. I’ve dumped it all in the trash so that I could embrace*

*Christ and be embraced by him. I didn't want some petty, inferior brand of righteousness that comes from keeping a list of rules when I could get the robust kind that comes from trusting Christ—God's righteousness. **I gave up all that inferior stuff so I could know Christ personally, experience his resurrection power, be a partner in his suffering, and go all the way with him to death itself.***

### Becoming Like Christ – Romans 8:16, 17 NIV

*“The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.”*

- ❖ What do these passages say in answer to the question of how we can become meek, humble, and gentle?

### **SOMETHING TO PONDER: Is Jesus worth living *and* dying for?**



*“If I will not live for Him today, why would I die for Him tomorrow? I know it is jolting, but we must ask ourselves, test our hearts, ask Holy Spirit to search us before it is too late. And there is a ‘too late’.”*

*~Cassidy Campbell~*

- ❖ Considering the context of these passages, what do you think was Jesus' glory?

### Who is Jesus? – John 1:1-4

*“In the beginning was the Word (Jesus), and the Word (Jesus) was with God, and the Word (Jesus) was God. He (Jesus) was with God in the beginning. Through him (Jesus) all things were made; without him (Jesus) nothing was made that has been made. In him (Jesus) was life, and that life was the light of all mankind.”*

### Proud Owners of Everything – Matthew 5:5 MSG

*“You're blessed when you're content with just who you are—no more, no less. That's the moment you find yourselves proud owners of everything that can't be bought.”*

- ❖ Why was Jesus content with who He was?
- ❖ Complete this sentence by filling in the blanks: Jesus knew He was the \_\_\_\_\_ of all things because He \_\_\_\_\_ (John 1:3).
- ❖ What is an “owner”?

There's a connection between John 1:1-4 and Matthew 5:5 (as worded in the MSG): Jesus owns all things → He purchased the earth by His blood through His ultimate act of humility → He offers the earth to those who will choose to follow Him in humility and meekness.

- ❖ Why would Jesus have to “purchase” the earth if He was already the owner of all things? (see John 12:23-32; 14:30; 16:11; Matthew 4:8-9; Luke 4:5-6)

“One of the reasons meekness is so hard to understand today is that we have become such a self-focused church obsessed with serving our own needs and wants.”

Cassidy Campbell, *Consecrated in the Chaos*, page 48

### We Must Not Fear! – Hebrew 2:14-15

*“Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil—and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.”*

- ❖ Do you or have you ever feared dying? If so, why do you think this is so?
- ❖ Since the fall of man, Satan has caused havoc throughout the world. Reading from **Consecrated in the Chaos** on pages 44-46, take a few minutes to discuss the story of the experience and faith of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego (Daniel 3), each of whom faced dying a horrible death.

If you have uncertainty or fear about dying, you are encouraged to further read Paul’s writings about the subject in Philippians 1:21-23 and 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18.

“In the craziest of circumstances: exile, foreign lands, fiery furnaces, hungry lions, wicked kings, and even the Anti-Christ himself, GOD IS OUR SALVATION. WE MUST NOT FEAR! GOD LOVES US AND WILL NEVER FORSAKE US. The point is not ‘No Pain, No Gain’! We are not ‘greater’ or a ‘hero’ merely because we experience death, pain, or suffering. Jesus conquered death; therefore, we do not fear it, because we understand that even in death, there is life!”

Cassidy Campbell, *Consecrated in the Chaos*, page 47

### Jesus at the Center – Colossians 1:15-18

*“The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy.”*

- ❖ Do you agree with this assessment? Why or why not?
- ❖ How do we experience radical change in our lives?
- ❖ Do you find pleasure in God? If not, why?

Cassidy stated, *“I exist for God’s pleasure and not God for my pleasure.”*

- ❖ How does God find pleasure in us?

Is your heart open to embracing this reality? If so, you too can find true pleasure in God.

“We postulate the lie that God wants us to live a balanced life. A life that we are the ‘center of’ and He just ‘enters and exits’ when He wants. And we audaciously shift the blame of His inactivity in our lives on Him being distant and removed. This puts our lives into a very self-egocentric society that places self at the heart and everything else literally revolves around it. We are the center, and we pray and ask God to fit into it somehow. This is a blatant assault on the spirit of humility, gentleness, and the meek.”

Cassidy Campbell, *Consecrated in the Chaos*, page 50

## **REFINING THE GOLD**

*Personal Journey – the Challenges and the Connection to God*

8. Why is it a problem asking God, *“What is Your will for my life?”*
9. What is a better question to ask God?
10. How will we know when we hear an answer?  
Then what?

**This Week:** *“The mystery, the catch, that makes meekness attainable is ‘only the meek can attain it.’”* Consider what this means. Who are the meek who can attain meekness? Take a hard look at your life and submit to God in prayer, confessing any self-centeredness and pride. Seek His wisdom as He opens the eyes to the revelation of your heart. Ask Him to

**make you meek, gentle, and humble like He is. Ask Him for understanding as to what He meant when He said you would inherit the earth. *So you can later reflect on this conversation with God, recording in a journal what you hear from Him may be helpful.***

