

Recognizing the Voice of GOD

The Gentle Voice of Wisdom

May 31, 2026 - Week Three

Guest Speaker: Mike Campbell

James 3:13-18 (ESV)

13 Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. 14 But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. 15 This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. 16 For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. 17 But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, **gentle**, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. 18 And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

>> Being gentle is not weakness; it is wisdom from above expressed by walking humbly with self-control and gracious strength.

1. Creating an environment of trust and safety
2. Winning the debate isn't worth losing the person
3. Restraint equals strength under control
4. Dying to self and personal growth
5. I am a reflection of Him, so perhaps I should live like it

James 3:17 "Gentle"	How it helps others	How it affects me
Speaks with restraint	Makes others feel safe instead of attacked	Keeps me from reacting too fast or too harshly
Values people over winning	Lowers defensiveness and opens the door to honest conversation	Frees me from the need to prove I'm right
Is considerate and fair	Respects others' dignity, even in disagreement	Shapes me into a calmer, wiser person
Yields without weakness	Helps others receive correction without shame	Teaches me strength under control rather than force
Listens before pushing	Helps others feel heard and understood	Makes me more humble and open to God's wisdom

God speaks through the Holy Spirit.

God speaks through his Word.

God speaks through Prayer.

God speaks through Circumstance (experience).

God speak through the Church (his people).

>> Gentleness is not softness that avoids truth, but strength governed by love and wisdom. It blesses others because it reduces harm, builds trust, and makes correction more receivable. It changes me because it loosens my grip on pride, control, and the need to dominate.