Produce in Me - Gentleness

_Do you want to go wine tasting in Carmel?

Glancing down at my phone, I saw this text message from my husband. Normally, on any other day, I would see this and think, 'Awww, how sweet!' But today was a busy day. Actually, it was the last busy day that was part of a never ending week of busy days. I was exhausted and my patience tank was running on empty. I wanted to text back, 'No, I really don't want to go to a winery in an hour. And no, I don't want to chase down our 1-year-old, fight with your daughter to please change out of her play clothes, and then go pick you up on campus!' I could feel the frustration of past battles and arguments about similar situations with him start to cloud up in my mind. But then I heard God speak to me.

Read Proverbs 15:1.

I could hear the Holy Spirit whisper that I needed to take a breather and that was when I saw things differently. It was Friday and I was sure that the hubby had just as busy of a week as I had. And all he was trying to do was take the family out on a little adventure. He was showing love and it was my duty as a follower of Christ to do the same. I needed to be patient and gentle in my words.

Read Ephesians 4:2-3.

Gentleness in the bible has been defined as “the sensitivity of disposition and kindness of behavior that is founded on strength and prompted by love.” Gentleness is not a form of weakness. In fact, it takes a lot of strength to show this fruit of the spirit on a daily basis. When we have gentleness in our hearts we can easily forgive, refrain from anger and vengefulness, and take the spotlight off of ourselves and onto others.

Read Titus 3:2.

So that afternoon, I filled my empty tank with God's truth and love and texted my wonderful husband back.

_Sure! Let me get the kiddos ready._