

# PROMOTING PEACE AND WELLBEING

By Bill Pugh



It's a hard lesson because we can so easily allow annoyance, disagreement and anger to take over.

And people can be hurt by such behaviour.

Marriages can break up because we lose self-control.

Physical injury can result if we lose control of our temper, and some of us have a short fuse.

A teacher controlling a class of teenagers can allow frustration to take over and the children suffer.

Court cases result between people who cannot settle disputes.

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus advised certain patterns of behaviour as essential to human wellbeing.

One troubling piece of advice was that Kingdom people should be meek in attitude and behaviour.

Most people, especially the Putins of this world, would reject this advice straight out.

The meek would be walked over by the strong, surely.

But Jesus had a different slant on that word.

For him, a truly meek person was self-controlled because he was God-controlled.

Such behaviour would be at the forefront of decision making and lead to worthy outcomes.

A society with that sense of self-control would lead to peace and wellbeing.

The meek are Kingdom people.

The prophet Micah put it this way: "*What does the Lord require of you but to do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with your God.*"

Micah: 6:8

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