



# April

## Month of Gentleness

### The Apostle Simon the Zealot

The Fish on the Bible symbolizes this relentless fisher of humanity through the power of the Gospel.

For the month of April, we will be focusing our attention on the virtue of gentleness. Gentleness flourishes from a heart that genuinely loves each and every one of God's children. There are many times in scripture that The Lord encourages gentleness from all of His followers.

**1 Peter 3:14–16** “But even if you should suffer for righteousness’ sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame.” Simon the Zealot is believed to have been part of a Jewish sect called the Zealots. This group sought to expel the Roman occupation by force. When Simon left the Zealots to follow Jesus, he would have had to learn to be gentle towards those who rebuked Jesus’ teachings.

In the Bible, we often see Jesus having compassion and showing gentleness to those who have sinned. While we should never encourage or promote sin, we should be gentle when correcting those who oppose God’s teachings. We should always ask Our Lord to give us the grace to be gentle.

## Prayer

**God, we pray that You may help us to have a gentle spirit, like Simon the Zealot, toward those who work against You. We pray for all those working against the prolife movement. We pray this in Jesus' name, Amen.**

