

Nothing is so strong as gentleness;
Or as gentle as real strength.



I had walked through the covered bridge at the Kymulga Mill, along the far bank of this peaceful stream and below the Dam created for the mill. I focus the camera back over the surface of the water and took this photo. The sun was hot; the breeze was cool and refreshing as it blows over the tranquil face of the water. The roar of the water constantly striking the rocks below was almost deafening.

I sat here in this far away place and witness this spectacle that has not changed for a hundred years and I am amazed at the power of this gentle stream. Hundreds of gallons of water pour over this dam every minute, all day, and all night and hammer the rocks below with unrelenting force. Suddenly, I realize that nothing is as strong as gentleness or as gentle as real strength.

I forget just how powerful water can be until I set at the base of a waterfall and feel its force as gravity hurls the water back to earth, or watch as a storm like Katrina devastates the gulf coast. When we harness its power and strength, what we can accomplish is unlimited; when it is out of control nothing can stand before its fury.

When we hear the word, gentle, often we think of weakness. But nothing is further from the truth. Gentleness is power that is under control, strength that is harnessed and used in a constructive way.

We should be like Superman and control our powers and only use them for good. Many people are like the waters of a broken dam, out of control and out to destroy everything in their

path. Remember, warmth, friendliness and a gentle touch is always stronger than force and fury. So today, be strong by being kind and gentle to those you meet today.

Something to think about:

- Power can do by gentleness what violence fails to accomplish.
- A friend is one who
Knows you as you are
Understands where you've been
Accepts who you've become
And still, gently invites you to grow.
- Gentle words fall lightly, but they have great weight.
- In our rough-and-rugged individualism, we think of gentleness as weakness, being soft, and virtually spineless. Not so! . . . Gentleness includes such enviable qualities as having strength under control, being calm and peaceful when surrounded by a heated atmosphere, emitting a soothing effect on those who may be angry or otherwise beside themselves, and possessing tact and gracious courtesy that causes others to retain their self-esteem and dignity. . . . Instead of losing, the gentle gain. Instead of being ripped off and taken advantage of, they come out ahead!

You're Mild-Mannered Reporter
Rickey Moore