The Foundations of a Better Culture: Blessed are the Meek Matthew 5:5 "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth." Changing the culture of a congregation, changing the culture of a family, begins with the changing of the culture within us. It is easy to want everyone one else to change, while we do not change ourselves. To be the people of God, we must be transformed in our minds and hearts (Rom 12:2). Within the Beatitudes, **meekness** is one of the most difficult virtues to grasp. - It's difficult because we do not fully _ It is viewed as being a patsy...a pushover. Meek to some means "weak" - It's difficult because this is so _____ Our world pushes self A. "Strength under control" is a common definition of this word—but there is much more to it than that NAS (1995): ESV/KJV: • CSB: 1. Moses: was very humble, more than any man who was on the face of the earth (Num 12:3) How was Moses strong? 2. Jesus: Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart; and you shall find rest for your souls (Mt 11:29) How was Jesus strong? Jesus Draws from Psalms 37 The Presence of Evil was a concern: 1. Inheriting the land (earth) - 9, 11, 22, 29 Evil doers (1, 8) For ancient Israel this was a reminder of the promise land Wrong doers (1) For Jesus' audience: they would have thought of overthrowing Rome Wicked (7b, 12, 14, 16, 17, 20, 21, 35) _____ in the Lord (3, 16-17; 23-24) Violent (35) - _____ your ways to the Lord (5) - be ______ with the Lord (7, 9, 34) F_____ Reaction - evil will be _____ with (9, 10, 38, 13) E of the A Righteous Instead of taking matters into his own hands, the meek person trusts God. He allows God to handle things in His way. Meekness is about _____ Developing The qualities that build meekness are: A Culture _____ (2 Pet 1:6; Acts 24:25; Prov 31:9) of the Best _____ (Ps 46:10) _____ (Heb 2:13) Meek are strong people who decline to domineer; they don't use their position to control situations. **Examples**