

The Patience of God Part 1 & 2

2/23/2020 and 3/8/2020

Patience : The capacity to accept or tolerate delay, trouble, and suffering without complaining or getting angry. Longsuffering, putting up with others/not provoked

I. How do we become more patient?

1. See the delay, trouble, and suffering as an opportunity to build your godliness.
2. Ask God to give wisdom, love, and grace to solve the problem-not passive! Ja 1:2
3. Make your **primary** goal in life to be like Jesus, not to solve the problem.
(See Eph 4:11-15; Rom 8:29; Gal 2:20; 2 Cor 5:17)

II. Skills for Patient Communication: _ Read John 14: 5-11

- 1) Reflective Response: answering by using some of the same words
- 2) Name Recognition: saying the person's name as a sign of value
- 3) Believing in the Best: using questions for encouraging and challenging
- 4) Answer Theo-logically: responding from God's perspective not yours
- 5) Be concise and polite: get to the point—don't wander or interrupt; listen

III. More Communication Skills: Read Mark 4: 35-41

- 1) Be at peace and create a peaceful environment—Jesus calms the storm first
- 2) Seek to understand BEFORE trying to be understood—"Why are you afraid?"
- 3) Don't be afraid to challenge- "Do you still have no faith?" Raise the bar!

Conclusion:

- 1) Patience while relating isn't passive or aggressive, but proactive, speaking the truth in love, communicating encouragement and realistic expectations.
- 2) Look past the fault and see the need. Prov 14:29 ; 1 Cor 13:4-5
- 3) Perspective + Attitude + Goal = Proactive Patience

Questions for Homework:

1. Memorize James 1:2-5. Recite this while you are going through the trial.
2. Next time you pray, ask God about your: a) character b) needs c) witness
3. How are you at listening? What will it take for you to be a better listener?
4. Are you **QTD (Quick To Disagree?)** Practice agreeing BEFORE disagreeing.
5. How can you show others that you value them as God would? Be specific.
6. Who do you need to encourage? Who can you challenge to be more like Christ?
7. Are you being too passive in your patience with others? Why do you think so?
8. How did God's truth speak to you this morning from His Word?
9. What adjustments do you need to make in your life as a result?

Kindness: Compassion in Action:

3/15/2020

Review of the Fruits:

1. **Love:** Unconditional/sacrificial concern/loyalty for the well-being of others.
2. **Joy:** Deep, internal godly gladness often externally expressed by rejoicing.
3. **Peace:** Absence of tension/conflict and deep assurance of God's presence.
4. **Patience:** Longsuffering within trials without complaining or getting angry.
5. **Kindness:** Compassion in action. Benevolent friendliness in words/deeds.

I. Five characteristics of a kind person:

- 1) Be _____. **Phil 2:4** *"Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others."*
- 2) Be _____. **Eph 4:29** *"Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen."*
- 3) Be _____. **Rom 12:15** *"Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep."*
- 4) Be _____. **Eph 4:15** *"Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church."*
- 5) Be _____. **Prov 3:27** *"Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to act. **James 4:17** *"Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin."**

Questions for Homework:

1. How better can you look out for the "interest of others"? Be specific.
2. Ask the Lord's forgiveness for times you have discouraged others.
3. Do you consider yourself a sympathetic person? Why or why not?
4. What keeps you from "speaking the truth in love"? Pray for His help.
5. Ask the Lord to help you be courageous with "compassion in action" .
6. How did God's truth speak to you this morning from His Word?
7. What adjustments do you need to make in your life as a result?