

## PATIENCE

Galatians 5:22,23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, FORBEARANCE (Patience), kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

The word forbearance in our vocabulary would be patience. --It means having a long temper or long fuse.

"Patience is a calm endurance based on the certain knowledge that God is in control." -- Melvin Newland

### I. \_\_\_\_\_ IS NATURAL AND EASY, PATIENCE IS HARD

Impatience when directed at people. Would be defined as following:

'a strong sense of annoyance at the unintentional faults and failures of others. This impatience is often expressed verbally in a way that tends to humiliate the person who is the object of the impatience.' (Respectable Sins, Jerry Bridges, 116)

If you are really bold go to a close friend or spouse or your children and ask "Where do you see impatience in me?"

Proverbs 14:29 Whoever is patient has great understanding, but one who is quick-tempered displays folly

I Corinthians 13:4 Love is PATIENT, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud

Ephesians 4:1-2 As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. <sup>2</sup> Be completely humble and gentle; be PATIENT, bearing with one another in love.

Colossians 3:12 Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

### II. TWO KINDS OF PATIENCE:

Two greek words used for patience.

The one here in Galatians 5:22, 23 is makrothumia

The second greek word (Hupomone) is often translated in the NIV as endurance or perseverance

#### A. DIRECTED AT \_\_\_\_\_ AND IS MOTIVATED BY MERCY

We need this first kind of patience when SOMEONE is trying us.

B. DIRECTED AT \_\_\_\_\_ AND IS MOTIVATED BY HOPE

Meaning there is a positive outlook towards an expected end.

"perseverance is not a long race; it is many short races one after the other." The late Walter Elliot (Scottish politician)

We tend to think that patience is passive. It's not, it's active. It's embracing God's rhythm and plan for your life however many difficult circumstances he decides to include in your life.

### III. HOW CAN WE GROW IN PATIENCE?

A. BUILD MORE \_\_\_\_\_ IN OUR LIVES

B. \_\_\_\_\_ IN CHRIST

John 15:5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

Exodus 14:13, 14 Moses answered the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the LORD will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again. <sup>14</sup> The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still."

### CONCLUSION:

"People are often unreasonable and self centered. Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of ulterior motives. Be kind anyway.

If you are honest, people may cheat you. Be honest anyway.

If you find happiness, people may be jealous. Be happy anyway.

The good you do today may be forgotten tomorrow. Do good anyway.

Give the world the best you have and it may never be enough. Give your best anyway.

For you see in the end, it is between you and God. It was never between you and them anyway.—Mother Teresa