



Have Some Fruit: Patience
Galatians 5:22

Nov 6th, 2022

DAILY DEVOTION

Find a rhythm in God's word this week! Follow this 5 day plan on your own or with your group!

<https://my.bible.com/reading-plans/29941>

INSPIRATION

"Patience: The quality you admire in the driver behind you
but can't stand in the driver who's in front of you."

– Anonymous

"Muddy water is best cleared by leaving it alone."

– Alan Watts

"Before you marry a person,
you should first make them use a computer with slow internet service
to see who they really are."

– Will Ferrell

"Never cut a tree down in the wintertime
Never make a negative decision in the low time.
Never make your most important decisions when you are in your worst moods.

Wait. Be patient.

The storm will pass. The spring will come."

– Robert H. Schuller

ICE BREAKER

Patience:

- a) Finish this sentence: I find myself really feeling impatient when....
- b) What's your most frequent response when feeling impatient? Do you push? Simmer? Get loud? Get angry? Fold your arms and grit your teeth? Smile unconvincingly and just endure until the agony ends? What do you tend to do?



DEEP DIVE

Read this out loud

An excerpt from the message this week:

“Sometimes my life seems to be one big wait in line moment. Do you ever feel like that? All you do – all we do is wait. We wait in line dropping our kids off for school. We wait in line for coffee. We wait for a doctor’s appointment. We wait to get into Valla’s. We wait in line for a food truck at the Fireworks Bonanza.

Sometimes the waiting is so difficult... Waiting for test results. Waiting for Christmas day. Waiting for Mr. Right. Waiting for the Huskers to be good again. Waiting for the political ads to be done”

Read Luke 15:11-24 (the prodigal son) and then answer the following questions:

- 1) Impatience: What things do you suspect the prodigal son found himself growing impatient with that led him to ask for his inheritance early?
- 2) Patience: What examples of patience do you see in the father from the beginning to the end of this event?

Read this out loud

An excerpt from the message this week:

It does seem like a lot of the story of the Israelite nation is about waiting.

When the nation of Israel had been led out of Egypt – they saw the amazing work of God. Every day was a miracle for the nation as God would provide food for them. God would lead them – they saw his direction every single day. The pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire would lead them at night.

It was that easy-to-follow God’s will. Stop when he stops – move when he moves. The evidence of the goodness of God was all around them.

They are led to a mountain – and Moses goes up into the mountain to receive the 10 commandments. All they had to do was wait...

Read Exodus 32:1-4 and answer the following questions:



- 3) What do you remember about the Israelite's background might explain (but not justify) their actions here?
- 4) Sometimes we expect too much (and too soon) from God. Other time we expect far too little or even nothing. How would you explain finding balance here (i.e. to a new believer)?

Share with us what you remember from the ups and downs in the life of Joseph

Read Genesis 45:4-8 and answer the following questions:

- 5) There's an old saying "God can draw a straight line with a crooked stick." Explain how that saying can be applied to the events in the life of Joseph? At this point in his life, how did Joseph's awareness of this change his attitude and actions toward those in his life?
- 6) Theologians speak of "God's Sovereignty". The idea is that God is in control – working through the good and bad that people do so that God's outcomes occur in our lives. Share a couple situations we find ourselves impatient with, and how an awareness of God's sovereignty can change the way we view that situation and ultimately the way we respond to it (i.e. health, work, relationship, relatives).

Additional Study

If you have time during your Small Group or you want to study more about the topic of patience, read and consider the following passages:

- Psalm 40:1-3 (God's deliverance from a pit of despair)
- Habakkuk 2:3 (Patience when God seems slow to act)
- Luke 2:51-52 (Jesus 30 year long wait before beginning his ministry)

NEXT STEPS

- 7) Patience: What works for you? Share things you have found helpful so you have more patience in trying situations.
 - 8) Share an area in your life where you know you need to learn to be more patient.
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PRAYER

In your group pray and thank God for his involvement in your life including the situations which have been trying your patience.

SERVE YOUR COMMUNITY

Establish a regular rhythm of serving together! Below are some service opportunities.

- BENSON - Serve with us at ABIDE every 2nd Saturday.
- MILLARD - Serve with us at Heartland Hope every 4th Saturday.
- FREMONT - Serve with us at LifeHouse every 3rd Saturday.
- OMAHA - Serve with us at Open Door Mission every 4th Saturday.
- Or get to know your community, are there any needs/volunteer opportunities?