

Harvest Church
Sunday school 2/16/20
Patience

A. **Patience:** Rom 12.12; 2 Cor 1.6; 1 Thes 5.14; Heb 6.5; Rev 1.9; Col 3.12; 2 Pet 3.13-14

B. **What is Patience?**

C. **Where does patience come from?**

1. Patience comes from God, and is rooted in him

Trust in our Father

Faith in Christ (Eph 1.9-11; James 5.7-11)

The work of the Holy Spirit

D. **What does patience look like?**

1. The opposites of patience

Impatience

'Impatience refuses to wait on God's time for the opportunity.' O'Donovan

Resignation

"Those who have great things asked of them have need of their small tasks, too: besides writing their masterpieces they should remember to put the recycling bins out, and then, perhaps, they will be more patient with the work of composition. And when what seem great things are asked of us, we must pray for the vision to see that they, to, are small enough.' O'Donovan

"Impatience rails against limits; resignation abandons itself to them, and in so doing abandons hope and is overcome by apathy and indifference." Webster

2. **Patience looks like**

Steadfastness: James 1.12

'However, patience does not impose limits upon the Lord

as to what the measure ought to be, or how long it ought to last. The patient believer is satisfied with the goodness and wisdom of the Lord. He proposes to himself that it may be all his life, for so precious is salvation to him.' Brakel

Relying on God's grace in suffering: 1 Cor 12.8-9

Joy in affliction: Col. 1.11

Quiet and composed waiting on God: James 5.8-9; Ps 62.1

Obedience: Matt 16.24

Love to neighbor: 1 Cor 13.4-7

'When we are impatient with our fellows, we refuse to let them be what they are. We want them to think differently, to be capable in the way we think they ought to be capable, to match our ideas about what they should do and how and when they should do it. We are impatient with the elderly because we think they are slow; we are impatient with children because we think they fumble; we are impatient with teenagers because we think they are headstrong and unbiddable. But our impatience is in the end a refusal to let our fellows be, a refusal to allow them the time and space that they need to fulfill God's calling of them. When I'm impatient, I want my neighbor to exist on my terms, in my space, in my time frame. And so, in the end, I lack love— for love is patient. It waits.' Webster