

# MESSAGE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

OCTOBER 23, 2022

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This week, Senior Pastor Marty Grubbs, continued in our series, *Fruit of the Spirit*, focusing on patience. The deeper your faith, the more patience you have for others. But what is patience? How do you get it? And what gets in the way of it?

Patience is:

- Waiting without complaint
- Tolerance or the intolerable
- A sense of calm based on the belief that God is in control
- Christ-centered contentment
- An indicator of your spiritual condition

Why we are impatient:

- Stress
- Arrogance
- Anger
- Entitlement
- Control

God in his patience continues to extend his grace to us. When we fall back into the same habitual sin that we've fallen into a thousand times before, when we fail to learn a lesson that God is trying to teach us, when we mistreat one of his children whom he loves, God is still there, extending grace, forgiving, restoring.

## SCRIPTURE

### HEBREWS 11:1

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

### HEBREWS 11:6

And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

### HEBREWS 6:11-12

Our great desire is that you will keep right on loving others as long as life lasts, in order to make certain what you hope for will come true. Then you will not become spiritually dull and indifferent. Instead, you will follow the example of those who are going to inherit God's promise because of their faith and patience.

### JAMES 5:7

Dear brothers and sisters, you must be patient as you wait for the Lord's return.

### JAMES 1:12

God blesses the people who patiently endure testing.

**PSALM 40:1**

I waited patiently for the Lord to help me, and he turned to me and heard my cry.

**1 THESSALONIANS 5:14**

Be patient with everyone.

**EPHESIANS 4:2**

Be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love.

**1 CORINTHIANS 13:4**

Love is patient and kind.

**2 PETER 3:9**

The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you and not wanting anyone to perish...

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. What stood out from Marty's message?
2. Read the Scriptures listed above. What do you learn about patience?
3. How has God shown his infinite patience to you?
4. Who is someone in your life who models biblical patience? What do you think is at the root of that patience?
5. Who do you find it hard to be patient with? (Often it is those we are closest to.) What gets in the way of you being patient?
6. How is faith critical to patience?
7. How can we pray for you?

**PRAYER**

Thank God for his perfect patience—his mercy that extends to cover all of your transgressions. Ask God to search your heart and bring to mind those in your life you need to be more patient with.