

The Fruit of the Spirit is Patience

February 4, 2018

Scripture:

²²But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things! – Gal. 5:22–23 (NLT)

From the Introduction:

In our world today, being a fast-paced society, wanting everything now, patience is something we need in our lives as believers to enable us to grow Spiritually. In the life of the believer patience is developed by the Holy Spirit.

Outline:

- 1) What does patience _____ like?
- 2) Patience is not natural, our flesh fights _____ it!
- 3) How is this fruit _____ in the walk of the believer?

Remember:

For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago. (Eph. 2:10 NLT)

Reflect:

It is said, "Patience is a virtue possessed by few." This may all be true, but patience in the meaning of Scripture is, happily, possessed by many. While it may not be perfected, its root is there. And what is patience? Its meaning is forbearance, longsuffering, endurance without complaint.¹

¹ Rev. Ernest S. Williams, "Patience," in *The Pentecostal Evangel*, November 14, 1925:4.

Seek:

- 1) Read James 5:7. James gives his readers an example of the farmer as a means to understanding patience. He also reminds us that the season of patience, unlike the growing season, will remain with us until Christ's return. What does this tell you about the need for a permanent state of patience in your life?

- 2) Is there ever truly a time when patience with one another is not an option for the believer?

Share:

- 1) Pastor Ken stated that patience is at war with our flesh and our spirit. Can you think of a time when lack of patience won out over your flesh and your spirit? Explain.

- 2) What were the results of your giving in? Did it only affect you personally, or were others negatively affected as well?

Serve:

- 1) Take a moment and reflect on who might currently be in your life that is in need of patience. How have you responded to him/her? What can you do to express God's love to them in a new and fresh way?

Prayer:

It has been said that one should never “pray for patience” because God might bring something into their life that will require it. Personally, I believe that God is not that cruel, and the world brings us enough troubles on its own. Ask the Holy Spirit to show you how to handle those moments in a Christlike manner, and then respond to His leading in patient obedience.