

## **BE PATIENT**

### **August 2 & 3, 2008**

#### **Yea God, for being Patient!**

Don't you realize how wonderfully kind, tolerant, and patient God is with you? Does this mean nothing to you? Can't you see that his kindness is intended to turn you from your sin?

Romans chapter 2, verse 4 (858)

- God is perfect and I am sinful.
- God is justified in punishing us at any time for our sin.
- God has a purpose to his patience.
- God is has been waiting for people since creation.
- God's patience is a constant flow of grace in my life.

The Lord isn't really being slow about his promise to return, as some people think. No, he is being patient for your sake. He does not want anyone to perish, so he is giving more time for everyone to repent.      *2 Peter chapter 3, verse 9 (939)*

But when the Holy Spirit controls our lives, he will produce this kind of fruit in us: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

Galatians chapter 5, verse 23 (893)

#### **Be Patient... when circumstances are uncontrollable**

Dear brothers and sisters, you must be patient as you wait for the Lord's return. Consider the farmers who eagerly look for the rains in the fall and in the spring. They patiently wait for the precious harvest to ripen.      *James chapter 5, verse 7 (932)*

- ✓ A lot of life is beyond your control.
- ✓ God is always doing something beneath the surface.
- ✓ My circumstances may be out of my control but not out of God's
- ✓ The more I pray the less I will try to control things.

You, too, must be patient. And take courage, for the coming of the Lord is near.

*James chapter 5, verse 8 (932)*

#### **Wait like a farmer.- Expectantly**

- ✓ Are you preparing for God's answer while waiting?
- ✓ Do you expect God to answer?
- ✓ Sometimes while I am waiting on God he's waiting on me, to grow up!
- ✓ Take this time to go deeper with God.
- ✓ I waited patiently for the LORD to help me, and he turned to me and heard my cry. He lifted me out of the pit of despair, out of the mud and the mire. He set my feet on solid ground and steadied me as I walked along. He has given me a new song to sing, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see what he has done and be astounded. They will put their trust in the LORD.      *Psalm chapter 40, verses 1-3 (431)*

#### **Be Patient... when people are unchangeable!**

For examples of patience in suffering, dear brothers and sisters, look at the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.      *James chapter 5, verse 10 (932)*

- ✓ Patience- *macrothumos*- “long heat”
- ✓ Having a long fuse does not mean you condone sin or abandon your commitment to change.
- ✓ Patient people will have the greatest impact on your life.
- ✓ Your impatience with others will hurt them and YOU.

Be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love. Ephesians chapter 4, verse 2 (897)

### **Wait like God.- Quietly**

- ✓ Don't complain about the person who won't change.
- ✓ View them as God does, with compassion.
- ✓ Realize God will hold them accountable.
- ✓ Seek support and accountability from other mature Christians.
- ✓ God has not forgotten you.
- ✓ *So it is good to wait quietly for salvation from the LORD.*

Lamentations chapter 3, verse 26 (624)

### **Be Patient... when problems are unexplainable!**

We give great honor to those who endure under suffering. Job is an example of a man who endured patiently. James chapter 5, verse 11 (932)

- A lot of things in life don't make sense.
- Job struggled with God but never turned his back on Him.
- Job never lost his confidence in God despite his lack of answers.
- Job's patience was rewarded when his life was restored.

From his experience we see how the Lord's plan finally ended in good, for he is full of tenderness and mercy. James chapter 5, verse 11 (932)

### **Wait like Job.- Confidently**

- ✓ Don't over analyze your situation
- ✓ God chooses to give peace rather than answers
- ✓ God is working his plan, cooperate with him.
- ✓ Seek to find out here he is working.
- ✓ *As for me, I look to the LORD for his help. I wait confidently for God to save me, and my God will certainly hear me.* Micah chapter 7, verse 7 (707)

### **I can be patient because God is my hope!**

I am counting on the LORD; yes, I am counting on him. I have put my hope in his word. Psalm chapter 130, verse 5 (474)

Resources used for today's talk,

Waiting- Ben Patterson

God is not in a Hurry- Warren Wiersbe

The teachings of Rick Warren- Saddleback Church, California

***Next Week: Be Great***