

The Habits of Grace

Patience and Persistence

March 21, 2021 / Dan Solofra

¹ *If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal...⁴ Love is patient,*
1 Corinthians 13:1&4^a

**Patience: The capacity to move forward on _____
time table. (long-suffering, remain under a heavy load)**

³¹ *At that time some Pharisees came to Jesus and said to him, “Leave this place and go somewhere else. Herod wants to kill you.”*

³² *He replied, “Go tell that fox, ‘I will keep on driving out demons and healing people today and tomorrow, and on the third day I will reach my goal.’³³ In any case, I must press on today and tomorrow and the next day—for surely no prophet can die outside Jerusalem!*

³⁴ *“Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing.³⁵ Look, your house is left to you desolate. I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.’”* **Luke 13:31-35, NIV**

**Persistence: Firm or _____ in
a course of behavior in spite of difficulty or opposition.**

³¹ *At that time some Pharisees came to Jesus and said to him, “Leave this place and go somewhere else. Herod wants to kill you.”* **Luke 13:31, NIV**

**Understand that persistence in showing habits of grace is
very often going to involve _____.**

³² *He replied, “Go tell that fox, ‘I will keep on driving out demons and healing people today and tomorrow, and on the third day I will reach my goal.’³³ In any case, I must press on today and tomorrow and the next day—for surely no prophet can die outside Jerusalem!* **Luke 13:32-33, NIV**

Persistence means, “Keep your _____ on the _____.

³⁴ *“Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing.* **Luke 13:34, NIV**

**Patience comes from keeping your _____ focused
on an _____ in need of the love of Jesus.**

³⁵ *Look, your house is left to you desolate. I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.’”*
Luke 13:35, NIV

⁷ *So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith.* **Acts 6:7, NIV**

⁵⁸ *Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.* **1 Corinthians 15:58, NIV**

**God’s patience and persistence _____ when
individuals recognize Jesus as _____ and _____.**

MEMORY VERSE

⁹ *The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.* **2 Peter 3:9, NIV**

My next step: God’s patience and persistence has led me to faith in Jesus. I will be patient and persistent in sharing his promises with others.

What’s your next step today?

Mark it on your Communication Card.

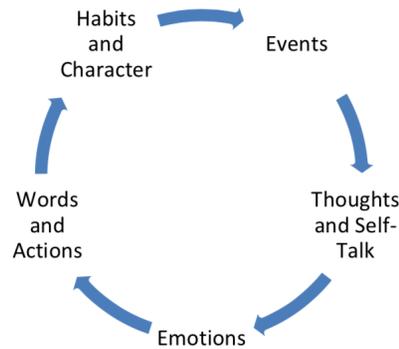
Impact Groups

Habits of Grace: Patience and Persistence

Getting Started: What is a game on your phone or computer that you play the most? What level are you on?

Going back to Sunday

What truth from Sunday's message was most impactful for you? How has the truth made a difference in your thinking, your emotions, or your words and actions this week?



God shows perfect patience and persistence in his relationship with us. What will a relationship look like where there is persistence but not much patience? (think 1 Corinthians 13:1,4a)

What will a relationship look like where there is patience but not much persistence? (Think, "procrastination about tough conversations")

Read Luke 13:31-33

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³² He replied, "Go tell that fox, 'I will keep on driving out demons and healing people today and tomorrow, and on the third day I will reach my goal.' ³³ In any case, I must press on today and tomorrow and the next day—for surely no prophet can die outside Jerusalem!"

In what way was Jesus being taking on risk by being persistent in these verses?

In what way do people try to intimidate Christians from being persistent in standing up for God's truth today?

Read Luke 13:34-35

³⁴ "Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing. ³⁵ Look, your house is left to you desolate. I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

Explain the picture of protection of a hen gathering her chicks under her wing.

Why is this a good picture of what Jesus does for us?

My Next Step

God calls me to patience and persistence. What is a situation or a person right now where God is calling you to be both patient and persistent? How can you take a next step in displaying both of these habits?

Doing Life Together

In our group and church we live together as a family in Christ. How does one determine when it is the right time to show patience or persistence in sharing his/her faith with a friend?

Prayer

Pray together as a group for about 10 minutes. Many groups do this in a circle format, allowing each person in the circle to pray or pass as they wish until all have had a chance to pray.

Reminders

Download the church center app today to stay up to date on the latest events at CrossWalk, fill out a communication card or give an offering.

Check out the "Invest and Invite 100" event on the app. It is one way to encourage you to invite friends to Easter worship.

The first phases of our building program are starting. Our building initiative is called, "Imagine". More information will be coming in the next months, but consider a regular offering each month to help move this project forward.