

21 days on  
**PATIENCE**



...*pursue* righteousness, godliness, faith, love, *patience*, gentleness. 1 Tim. 6:11

**Day 1:** Using a thesaurus or dictionary, do a word study of the word *patience*. List synonyms / antonyms / definitions.

Why are we admonished to pursue patience?

**Day 2:** Would you consider yourself a patient person? Why or why not?

Think of someone who has demonstrated patience. What characteristics did this individual possess? What are attributes of patience?

**Day 3:** Study these verses to determine how practical patience can be in your daily life:

- Proverbs 25:15 / Ecclesiastes 10:4
- Proverbs 14:29 / Ecclesiastes 7:8
- Proverbs 15:18 / James 1:19

**Day 4:** Read Proverbs 16:32. Why is a patient man more desirable than a warrior? How do you respond to adversity: even-tempered or combative? Explain.

**Day 5:** Read 2 Samuel 16:5-12 and compare it with 1 Corinthians 3:19. How does the world view patience? What might patience cost the individual?

**Day 6:** What examples of patience are displayed in these passages?

- James 5:7
- Hebrews 6:13-15
- 1 Timothy 1:15-16
- Luke 8:15

**Day 7:** Read Psalm 37:1-9. Compare this passage to Isaiah 38:13-14. How can problems or confrontations be used as a training ground to practice patience?

**Day 8:** Read Proverbs 19:11. How would wisdom give someone patience?

**Day 9:** Read Nehemiah 9:29-30 and Isaiah 38:13. Does patience have a time limit? How long does someone need to be patient before it is acceptable to take action?

**Day 10:** Read about Job. Was he truly patient (Job 3:1-3; 21:4) or persistent (Job 1:20-22; 2:9-10; 13:15)?

Are *perseverance* and *patience* synonymous?

**Day 11:** Read Habakkuk 3:16-18. What does a person *feel like* when he practices patience? What emotions are acceptable and unacceptable?

**Day 12:** Read 2 Peter 3:9 and 1 Tim 1:16. Site incidences in your personal life where God has shown you patience.

**Day 13:** Matthew 18:23-29. Describe the attitudes of the master and the servant. Why is patience a heart issue?

**Day 14:** Read Romans 2:4. How can patience affect the recipient?

Can it be misconstrued as pacifism or lack of intent to bring about change?

What is the difference between *patience* and *pacifism*?

**Day 15:** Read Habakkuk 1:13, Revelation 2:2-3. How strong is the word *tolerance* in these verses? What should believers tolerate today? Have modern days forced a more open-mindedness in your beliefs?

What is the difference between *patience* and *tolerance*?

**Day 16:** Read 1 Corinthians 13:4-7. List incidents when patience has actually helped to strengthen your relationships with others.

**Day 17:** Read the story of Naaman in 2 Kings 5:1-15a. Explain how lack of patience would have brought about a regrettable result.

**Day 18:** Read Romans 12:12 and Rev. 13:10. How can these verses be applied to your personal life? In what ways do you endure?

Site ways when your patience has proven victorious.

**Day 19:** Read 1 Thessalonians 5:14 and Ephesians 4:1-3. How does patience bring about unity?

**Day 20:** Read Romans 8:25 and Hebrews 6:13-15. Site some examples of waiting patiently for what you do not yet have.

**Day 21:** Read Isaiah 7:10-13 and 1 Thessalonians 1:2-3. How does patience reflect God's character?

*More Thoughts on...*  
**Patience**

*Our real blessings often appear to us in the shape of pains, losses and disappointments; but let us have patience and we soon shall see them in their proper figures.”*

*-Joseph Addison*

***“Without patience, we will learn less in life. We will see less. We will feel less. We will hear less. Ironically, rush and more usually mean less.”***

***- Mother Teresa***

*“My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think that I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you. And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire. And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road though I may know nothing about it. Therefore will I trust you always though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.”*

*- Thomas Merton*

***“Be patient and understanding. Life is too short to be vengeful or malicious.”***

***- Phillips Brooks***

*“How many a man has thrown up his hands at a time when a little more effort, a little more patience would have achieved success.”*

*- Elbert Hubbard*

***“The key to everything is patience. You get the chicken by hatching the egg, not by smashing it.”***

***- Arnold H. Glasow***

*“Good character is not formed in a week or a month. It is created little by little, day by day, Protracted and patient effort is needed to develop good character.”*

*- Heraclitus*

***“A waiting person is a patient person. The word patience means the willingness to stay where we are and live the situation out to the full in the belief that something hidden there will manifest itself to us.”***

***- Henri J. M. Nouwen***

*“Patience is the companion of wisdom.”*

*- Augustine*

*Further Reading on...*  
***Patience***

*Seven Spiritual Gifts of Waiting: Patience, Loss of Control, Living in the Present, Compassion, Gratitude, Humility, Trust in God* by Holly W. Whitcomb

*The Blessings of Brokenness: Why God Allows Us to Go Through Hard Times*  
by Charles Stanley

*Be Still (Let Jesus Calm Your Storms)* by Cherie Hill

*Patience* by Calvin Miller

*Patience: The Benefits of Waiting* by Stephen Eyre

For Children:

*Remy the Rhino Learns Patience* by Andy McGuire