

Patient Love – Part 2

1 Corinthians 13:4; Coast Community Church; Pastor Earl Miles; 1-10-2021

Love is patient, love is kind *and* is not jealous; love does not brag *and* is not arrogant
– 1 Corinthians 13:4

The Basics

- **God** created us to find our **happiness in Him**.
- All of us have **rebelled**, worshiped ‘idols’ (God replacements) and deserve His just punishment.
- We **cannot** save ourselves.
- Mercifully, the Triune God (Father, Son, and Spirit) has provided an **answer in the Son**.
- **Jesus lived the life** we could never live.
- **Jesus died the death** we deserve to die.
- **Jesus rose from the dead** as the Lord of all.
- Jesus offers us **forgiveness** and **eternal life**.
- God calls us to **turn** from sin and **trust** in Jesus.
- God calls us to live a life of **trust** and **love**.
- Trust involves **resting in Jesus** and **hoping in God**.
- Love involves submitting to **God’s Word** and **will**.

The Bible tells us what our trust and love is to look like. Right now, we are talking about the reality that ‘**love is patient**.’ (1 Corinthians 13:4)

A Definition

Patience is trusting and loving in the unplanned place, at the unplanned pace, with difficult people and uncomfortable circumstances.

Long time to boil! Long fuse! In it for the long haul!

Note verse 4: **Love is patient** (NASB); Love suffers long (NKJV); The love is long-suffering (YLT)

Other closely associated words: meekness, gentleness, forbearance

Why is this the first thing Paul mentions about love? Because you can’t love if you shut down, harden your heart and walk away.

The Divine Command to Be Patient

- God commands us to be patient.* – 1 Thessalonians 5:14; James 5:7, 8
- This patience is with regard to people and circumstances.* – Matthew 18:26; James 5:7

- This patience is a reflection of the patience of God.* – 2 Peter 3:9; Romans 2:4; 9:22; 1 Timothy 1:16; 1 Peter 3:20; 2 Peter 3:15; Exodus 34:6; Numbers 14:18; Nehemiah 9:17; Psalm 103:8; Jonah 4:2
- This patience is long suffering in the face of difficult and disappointing people and circumstances.* – 1 Thessalonians 5:14; James 5:10

Patient Love in Relationships

- Expect to be hurt and offended and disappointed in a fallen world.* – Mark 11:25
- Identify the difficult and disappointing things and identify with them.* – Matthew 7:1-5
- Determine to love them patiently by laying down your life.* – Colossians 3:12

To 'agape love' (Christian love) is to value someone, for God's sake, so that you lay down your life for their good in trusting obedience to God's Word.

– 1 John 3:16; 2 John 1:6; Philippians 3:8; 1 John 4:8

- Determine to continue doing what is right and wise and good for them.* - Ephesians 4:2 (see also 1 Thessalonians 5:14; Romans 2:4; 2 Timothy 4:2; 2 Corinthians 6:6)

Patience with the Powers that Be

What would a patient response to injurious authorities, practically speaking? – 1 Timothy 2:1-8

What do our leaders need?

- Our prayers.
- Salvation.
- A faithful testimony to the Truth.
- Our holy lives (of patient love).

Conclusion

What do you do with 'injuries' from others?

- Do you walk away?
- Do you retaliate?
- Do you walk away and retaliate?

Are you fighting sin (impatience and other sin)?

- Are you fighting 'forgiven sin' through faith in Jesus?
- Are you fighting in dependence on the grace of God?