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# GETTING BETTER AT LOVE

## Patience

Message by Pastor Kevin Cavanaugh  
Cedar Grove Church | April 30, 2017

## LEADER'S STUDY GUIDE



**WATCH FOR LEADER'S TIPS**

## Getting to Know One Another

- When it comes to patience those closest to me would say I have: lots, little, or none.
- What is one thing in your life that Jesus has used to teach you to be more patient?
- What is one thing you are or have been waiting on the Lord for?

*Be still before the LORD and wait **patiently** for him; do not fret when people succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes. **Psalm 37:37***

*A hot-tempered person stirs up conflict, but the one who is **patient** calms a quarrel. **Proverbs 15:18***

*Better a **patient** person than a warrior, one with self-control than one who takes a city. **Proverbs 16:32***

*Through patience a ruler can be persuaded, and a gentle tongue can break a bone. **Proverbs 25:15***

*The end of a matter is better than its beginning, and patience is better than pride.*  
**Ecclesiastes 7:8**

**12** Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. **13** Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. **14** And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. **Colossians 3:12-14**

## PATIENCE

If you are always in a hurry, people are not going to feel as though they are very **important** to you.

Patience is one of the **foundational** building blocks of LOVE.

### 5 Practical Steps to Slowing Your Stride

1. When people showed up I **set aside** what I was doing!
2. I took off my **watch**.
3. I gave people **focused attention!**
4. I decided I would not be in a **hurry**.
5. The side benefit of patience. When you are not in a hurry, the **Holy Spirit** almost always shows up in a very unique way.

[Patience in Suffering] *Be patient, then, brothers and sisters, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop, **patiently** waiting for the autumn and spring rains. James 5:7*

*You too, be **patient** and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near. James 5:8*

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



The first several questions lend themselves towards large group sharing and interaction but it's your call.

1. **If you were to rate your overall Patience** in life right now on a scale from 1-10; with one being low, and 10 being high, where would you be?

2. **How true is this statement in your life?** [circle one]

I am always in a perpetual state of hurry, regardless of whether I had anywhere to go or anything to do.

Not very                  Very                  Totally

3. **Agree or Disagree?** If you are always in a hurry, people are not going to feel as though they are very important to you.

4. **What things am I doing** that might be causing my spouse, children, friends, co-workers to feel like I don't have time for them?

5. **Agree or Disagree?** #1 Priority of the Christian life is us loving people. So, if the people were feeling unloved by you, you are failing at the primary purpose of your life!

6. **Pastor Kevin described 5 things he either changed or experienced from the changes. Which one or two could you most relate to or need to hear?**
7. Write out 2-5 steps you could take to make more space and time for people:
- At Home
  - At Work
  - At Church
  - Other
8. **Can you describe a time when you've experienced this benefit of being patient? #5 *When you are not in a hurry, the Holy Spirit almost always shows up in a very unique way.***

## APPLICATION

### STOP & PRAY | Close Out Conversation

This time instead of praying for you partner start off in praying for yourself.

- Begin by repenting (if true) for any lack of patience.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to fill you a new and a fresh with His patience.



**Close by praying for the group.**

# NOTES