

HOW TO BUILD A GODLY LIFE  
ADD THE CHARACTER TRAIT OF PATIENCE TO YOUR LIFE

We have been in this series for a long time. Why? It takes time to grow things and it takes time to grow a spiritual life. Today we want to grow PATIENCE into our lives.

2 Peter 1:5-6, “And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance PATIENCE; and to patience godliness;” (KJV)

I. WHY IS PATIENCE NECESSARY IN OUR LIVES?

A. God is working on a long term plan.

Psa. 27:14, “Wait on the Lord; Be of good courage, And He shall strengthen your heart; Wait, I say, on the Lord!” (NKJV)

B. We are told over and over in the Bible to “WAIT ON THE LORD” which means to be patient.

1. Patient in our finances (Don=t spend more money than you are taking in.)
2. Patient in our problems (Don=t run away from our problems before God has a chance to work them out.)
3. Patient with our sicknesses (Don=t get discouraged with them, rather see that God is working through them.)

C. Patience is accepting a difficult situation from God without giving Him a deadline to remove it.

II. THE RESULTS OF BEING PATIENT

By being patient we will:

A. See success in our lives

James 5:7-8 “Now as for you, dear brothers who are waiting for the Lord's return, be patient, like a farmer who waits until the autumn for his precious harvest to ripen. Yes, be patient. And take courage, for the coming of the Lord is near.” (TLB)

B. See that the prosperity of the ungodly is only temporary

Jer. 12:1-3, “O Lord, you always give me justice when I bring a case before you to decide. Now let me bring you this complaint: Why are the wicked so prosperous? Why are evil men so happy? You plant them. They take root and their business grows. Their profits multiply, and they are

rich. They say, "Thank God!" But in their hearts they give no credit to you. But as for me-Lord, you know my heart-you know how much it longs for you. (And I am poor, O Lord!) Lord, drag them off like helpless sheep to the slaughter. Judge them, O God!" (TLB)

C. See God answer our prayers

Psa. 40:1 "I waited patiently for the LORD: and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry."

D. See all the promises of God come to pass

Heb. 6:13-15, "For when God made a promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself, saying, 'Surely blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply you.' And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise." (NKJV)

### III. HOW IS PATIENCE DEVELOPED IN OUR LIVES?

A. Patience is developed in our lives by enduring problems and tribulations.

Rom. 5:3-5, "We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they are good for us-they help us learn to be patient. And patience develops strength of character in us and helps us trust God more each time we use it until finally our hope and faith are strong and steady. Then, when that happens, we are able to hold our heads high no matter what happens and know that all is well, for we know how dearly God loves us, and we feel this warm love everywhere within us because God has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love. (TLB)

### IV. THE BENEFITS OF BEING PATIENT DURING TRIBULATIONS

A. We will be blessed more and more. A Biblical example is Job.

James 5:10-11, "For examples of patience in suffering, look at the Lord's prophets. We know how happy they are now because they stayed true to him then, even though they suffered greatly for it. Job is an example of a man who continued to trust the Lord in sorrow; from his experiences we can see how the Lord's plan finally ended in good, for he is full of tenderness and mercy." (TLB)

**BY BEING PATIENT, JOB ENDED UP WITH A GOOD AND SUCCESSFUL LIFE AND YOU WILL TOO.**