

Saturday, August 8, 2026

Look inward. In a non-judgmental manner, invite the Holy Spirit to search your heart and see if there is any attitude of impatience or anger that is preventing this fruit from growing in your life.

Look upward. See how God is so incredibly patient with us. He delays judgment as long as he can, giving us time to repent. Thank him for his patience with you.

Look outward. With whom do you need the supernatural power of the Holy Spirit to be patient? Bring that person to the Lord and

Look forward. Remember there is a time coming when this current age will be over and every single one of our sufferings will be over. Our time in this age will be so minuscule compared to eternity with him. Such a future perspective enables us to make it through now.

WEEK 5



becoming

fruit of the Spirit summer series



"Becoming" • Week 5

Galatians 5:22 - *The fruit of the Spirit is...patience....*

Ok - now we're getting real! Patience has to do with the very real stuff of life in this day and age.

In such chaotic times as this current cultural moment, the Church has a different and better way of life to offer the world. The fruit of the Spirit is about living life by the Spirit of God in order to become the kind of person this world needs.

This series of devotionals is designed to take us deeper into what God has for us each week, based on the topic of the previous Sunday's teaching.

This week we explore the second fruit of the Spirit - patience.

Instructions: this could be a simple format for your prayer time:

1. Begin with a prayer of approach, asking God to reveal himself to you and to take you deeper into relationship with him.
2. Come with an attitude of humility, submission, and learning, so that you're ready to obey what God says.
3. Pray the Scripture for that day. Read it slowly. What stands out to you? What strikes you? Read it a second time slowly.
4. Keep note throughout the day how you notice or experience patience (or lack thereof) in your life. Be thinking about what you could share with someone else regarding the goodness and love of God.

Friday, August 7, 2026

Colossians 3:13 (NIV)

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.

Who do you need to "bear with" today? (either in your life or in the world)

Who do you need to decide to forgive today?

Practice benevolent detachment once again, where you give everyone and everything to God. "Jesus, I release everyone and everything to you today." You may need to do this more than once, throughout the day.

Thursday, August 6, 2026

1 Peter 4:12-14, 16, 19 (NIV)

¹² Dear friends, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that has come on you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³ But rejoice inasmuch as you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴ If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. ...¹⁶ However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name. ... ¹⁹ So then, those who suffer according to God's will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good.

What examples can you think of where Christians have shown great patience in the face of persecution and suffering?

In the passage above, underline the commands that Peter gives to the Church. Which ones do you need to obey today?

Monday, August 3, 2026

Hosea 11:1-4 (NIV)

*¹ "When Israel was a child, I loved him,
and out of Egypt I called my son.
² But the more they were called,
the more they went away from me.
They sacrificed to the Baals
and they burned incense to images.
³ It was I who taught Ephraim to walk,
taking them by the arms;
but they did not realize
it was I who healed them.
⁴ I led them with cords of human kindness,
with ties of love.
To them I was like one who lifts
a little child to the cheek,
and I bent down to feed them.*

What metaphor is used of God here in this passage?

How does that comparison sit with you?

What does this quality of God tell you about God?

Tuesday, August 4, 2026

Micah 7:18-19 (NIV)

*¹⁸ Who is a God like you,
who pardons sin and forgives the transgression
of the remnant of his inheritance?
You do not stay angry forever
but delight to show mercy.
¹⁹ You will again have compassion on us;
you will tread our sins underfoot
and hurl all our iniquities into the depths of the sea.*

In what ways has God been patient with you in your Christian experience?

In what ways do others have to be patient with you?

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

1 Peter 2:20-24 (NIV)

²⁰ But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God. ²¹ To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.

*²² "He committed no sin,
and no deceit was found in his mouth."*

²³ When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. ²⁴ "He himself bore our sins" in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; "by his wounds you have been healed."

Jesus is our model for how to persevere (*hypomeno* - hang in there) in difficult times. According to Peter here, how did Jesus do it and what do you need to learn and implement in your life?