

The Way of Love



January	A More Excellent Way
February	Without Love I Am Nothing
March	Love Is Patient
April	Love Is Kind and Does Not Envy
May	Love Is Not Boastful or Arrogant
June	Love Is Not Rude
July	Love Is Not Self-Seeking or Irritable
August	Love Does Not Keep a Record of Wrongs
September	Love Finds No Joy in Unrighteousness but Rejoices with Truth
October	Love Bears and Believes All Things
November	Love Hopes and Endures All Things
December	Love Never Ends

What is Patience?

- Do we really need to define this?
- Actually, we might. Patience in Scripture isn't just waiting for something without complaining. That's more endurance.
- Patience, in Scripture, specifically deals with being wronged.

Discussions about Patience

- Matthew 18 contains some of the most profound instructions on patience in Scripture.
- It begins with a discussion about God's love for those who wrong Him.
- It continues into a conversation Jesus has with Peter about sin and forgiveness (patience).

Discussions about Patience

- Thereafter Jesus presents the “Parable of the Unforgiving (Impatient) Servant.”
- “...have patience with me...” occurs 2 times.
- Patience and forgiveness are inextricably linked in this parable.

Examples of Patience

- 1 Peter 3:20 - “God’s patience waited in the days of Noah.”
- In Genesis 6:3 - God starts a 120 year countdown to the flood. The implication of Noah being a “preacher of righteousness” (2 Peter 2:5) is that during these 120 years, he was preaching a message of repentance. The world, obviously, did not listen.

Examples of Patience

- During the wilderness wanderings, Israel provoked God “ten times” (Numbers 14:20-23), yet God continued with them.
- God endured with Israel (northern tribes) for just over 200 years before his patience ran out.
- It would take another 150 years for God’s patience to reach its limit with Judah.

Examples of Patience

- 2 Peter 3:9 - “God is patient toward you...”
- Think of all the things God has suffered through for the last 2,000 years.
- Now, think of all the things that God has suffered through in YOUR life.
- Can we not try at least a little patience for others?