

PATIENCE IS...

Habakkuk 2:3

Our goal for this series is that we will begin to see the Holy Spirit do for us what we cannot do for ourselves: Fill us with the fruit of his presence.

I have encouraged us all to begin each day with the prayer we learned from John Stott:

Holy Spirit, I pray that this day you will fill me with yourself and cause your fruit to ripen in my life: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

How to cultivate patience in three key areas of life.

1. Patience is a willingness to wait just a little longer.

We have a tendency to complain to God when things don't come together as quickly as we would like.

Andy Stanley said when it comes to waiting for the right time, we tend to look at the clock, but God looks at the calendar.

Practicing patience — the ability to delay gratification just a little longer — makes you a better person and gives you a better life.

God is waiting for you to become the person he created you to be, a person conformed to the image of Jesus Christ, filled with the fruit of the Holy Spirit. Ref: Hab:2:3

For the revelation awaits an appointed time; it speaks of the end and will not prove false. Though it linger, wait for it; it will certainly come and will not delay. (Habakkuk 2:3)

The solution to your situation will come at the appointed time. Though it lingers, wait for it. Habakkuk 2:3

2. Patience is a willingness to give others room to grow.

Our impatience with others includes an unspoken subtext: I am better than you are; I am more important than you are.

PBPGIFWY. Please Be Patient. God Isn't Finished With Me Yet. Ref: Ephesians 4:32; Ephesians 4:2

3. Patience is a willingness to try again.

Holiness, like patience, is a process that develops over time. It involves a willingness to try again.

For though a righteous man falls seven times, he rises again...but the wicked are brought down by calamity. (Proverbs 24:16)

The difference between the righteous and the unrighteous is that the righteous get back up. Ref: Proverbs 24:16

The more you surrender yourself to him, the more you will grow into his likeness. Ref: Philippians 1:6

God has promised to cause every situation to work together for good, and he promised to finished the work he began in each of us, until we are like Jesus. That's his promise.[]