

## Patient Love – Part 2

1 Corinthians 13:4; Coast Community Church; Pastor Earl Miles; 1-10-2021

**Love is patient**, love is kind *and* is not jealous; love does not brag *and* is not arrogant  
– 1 Corinthians 13:4

### The Basics

- **God** created us to find our **happiness in Him**.
- All of us have **rebelled**, worshiped ‘idols’ (God replacements) and deserve His just punishment.
- We **cannot** save ourselves.
- Mercifully, the Triune God (Father, Son, and Spirit) has provided an **answer in the Son**.
- **Jesus lived the life** we could never live.
- **Jesus died the death** we deserve to die.
- **Jesus rose from the dead** as the Lord of all.
- Jesus offers us **forgiveness** and **eternal life**.
- God calls us to **turn** from sin and **trust** in Jesus.
- God calls us to live a life of **trust** and **love**.
- Trust involves **resting in Jesus** and **hoping in God**.
- Love involves submitting to **God’s Word** and **will**.

The Bible tells us what our trust and love is to look like. Right now, we are talking about the reality that ‘**love is patient**.’ (1 Corinthians 13:4)

### A Definition

*Patience is trusting and loving in the unplanned place, at the unplanned pace, with difficult people and uncomfortable circumstances.*

Long time to boil! Long fuse! In it for the long haul!

Note verse 4: **Love is patient** (NASB); Love suffers long (NKJV); The love is long-suffering (YLT)

Other closely associated words: meekness, gentleness, forbearance

Why is this the first thing Paul mentions about love? Because you can’t love if you shut down, harden your heart and walk away.

### The Divine Command to Be Patient

- God commands us to be patient.* – 1 Thessalonians 5:14; James 5:7, 8
- This patience is with regard to people and circumstances.* – Matthew 18:26; James 5:7

- This patience is a reflection of the patience of God.* – 2 Peter 3:9; Romans 2:4; 9:22; 1 Timothy 1:16; 1 Peter 3:20; 2 Peter 3:15; Exodus 34:6; Numbers 14:18; Nehemiah 9:17; Psalm 103:8; Jonah 4:2
- This patience is long suffering in the face of difficult and disappointing people and circumstances.* – 1 Thessalonians 5:14; James 5:10

### **Patient Love in Relationships**

- Expect to be hurt and offended and disappointed in a fallen world.* – Mark 11:25
- Identify the difficult and disappointing things and identify with them.* – Matthew 7:1-5
- Determine to love them patiently by laying down your life.* – Colossians 3:12

*To 'agape love' (Christian love) is to value someone, for God's sake, so that you lay down your life for their good in trusting obedience to God's Word.*

– 1 John 3:16; 2 John 1:6; Philippians 3:8; 1 John 4:8

- Determine to continue doing what is right and wise and good for them.* - Ephesians 4:2 (see also 1 Thessalonians 5:14; Romans 2:4; 2 Timothy 4:2; 2 Corinthians 6:6)

### **Patience with the Powers that Be**

*What would a patient response to injurious authorities, practically speaking?* – 1 Timothy 2:1-8

What do our leaders need?

- Our prayers.
- Salvation.
- A faithful testimony to the Truth.
- Our holy lives (of patient love).

### **Conclusion**

*What do you do with 'injuries' from others?*

- Do you walk away?
- Do you retaliate?
- Do you walk away and retaliate?

*Are you fighting sin (impatience and other sin)?*

- Are you fighting 'forgiven sin' through faith in Jesus?
- Are you fighting in dependence on the grace of God?