

[NEW BELIEVER'S]

Bible Study #14

PATIENCE (PERSEVERANCE)

In the last study, we learned about self-control. When we learn to be patient, self-control becomes easier. How often during times of trials do we find ourselves asking God to give us patience, right now! The word *patience* means “long-tempered,” the ability to contain one’s self. It is the opposite of having a short fuse. It indicates perseverance, endurance, steadfastness, and long-suffering. Patience is that calm and unruffled temper with which the godly person bears the evils of life, whether they come from persons or things.

For this study, we’ll be memorizing James 1:2-4:

MY BRETHREN, COUNT IT ALL JOY WHEN YOU FALL INTO VARIOUS TRIALS, KNOWING THAT THE TESTING OF YOUR FAITH PRODUCES PATIENCE. BUT LET PATIENCE HAVE ITS PERFECT WORK, THAT YOU MAY BE PERFECT AND COMPLETE, LACKING NOTHING.

In this study, you will learn:

- That God is patient.
- How we can receive patience.

Remember to write out your answers in your own words. Do not simply copy the Bible verses.

1. Read James 1:2-4. What does verse 2 tell us we should do when we experience trials? _____

According to verse 4, how do we profit when we experience trials and tribulations?

People may tempt and provoke God with their sinfulness, yet He is incredibly patient toward them. Many Bible scholars believe that God waited 120 years for the people to repent of their wickedness, while Noah was building the ark. Read Genesis 6:1–22.

2. How many people in all were saved from the flood?

(1 Peter 3:20) _____

3. Read Genesis 12:3–4, 17:2, 18:10, and 21:5. When God makes a promise, He keeps it! It took 25 years for God’s promise to Abraham to take place. What did Abraham do during this time?

(Hebrews 6:15) _____

4. According to 2 Peter 3:9, how patient (longsuffering) is the Lord?

5. What else is patient (longsuffering)?

(1 Corinthians 13:4) _____

Patience and love are like joy and peace. The two go hand in hand. Often, we can show our love by restraining our words or actions.

6. Read Colossians 1:9–11. As we grow in the knowledge of God, we are strengthened with all power. What are we strengthened for?

(Colossians 1:11) _____

7. How many people does the Bible tell us to be patient with?

(1 Thessalonians 5:14–15) _____

8. Just how long are we to be patient with everyone?

(James 5:7–10) _____

9. How can we receive patience?

(Matthew 21:22) _____

(Romans 15:5) _____

(Galatians 5:22) _____

Patience or longsuffering is part of the fruit that the Holy Spirit gives. We receive the fruit of the Spirit as we follow Jesus in obedience to Him. God is the author of patience in His servants.

In 2 Corinthians 6:3–10, we read about the many hardships that Paul encountered during his ministry. Yet he steadfastly showed himself to be a minister of God by his character.

10. What were some of Paul's character traits?

(2 Corinthians 6:6) _____

11. How are we to act during hard times?

(Romans 12:12) _____

12. How should we wait for the Lord?

(Psalm 37:7) _____

(Psalm 40:1) _____

As we grow in faith, purity, knowledge, self-control, and patience, we move forward toward a genuine reverence of God that will govern our attitude toward every part of our lives.

13. According to 2 Peter 1:6, what is the virtue that follows patience?

14. Are you growing in godliness?

From memory, write out your memory verse from page 1.
