

Fruit Of The Spirit – Patience (Galatians 5:22-23)

I. Patience Is The Evidence Of Having Freedom From Slavery – Galatians 5:1, 13, 22-23

- 2 Corinthians 3:17

II. Patience Is An Expression Of Jesus' Extraordinary Love and Mercy - Galatians 5:14

1. Extraordinary Love - 1 Corinthians 13:4-7
2. Extraordinary Mercy - Matthew 18:23-25, 26-27, 29-30, 32-33

III. Cultivating The Fruit Of Patience – Galatians 5:24-25

1. Remember you belong to Christ Jesus and pray
 - Romans 6:3-4, Luke 3:21-22

Validation - “You are my beloved” – You are chosen by God before you were even born, The Father **validates** your life not the world.

Identity - “You are my son/daughter” – Don’t let anyone else define you, including yourself.

Affirmation - “And with you I am well pleased!” – You have the affirmation of the Lord, so you do not need to seek it from others.

Pray: “*Christ Jesus, you died so I don’t have to _____ anymore!*”

2. Crucify the sinful desires
 - Galatians 2:20
3. Live by the Spirit
 - 2 Corinthians 3:17-18
4. Keep in step with the Spirit

IV. Patience Is Trusting The Lord In The Waiting – A case study of King Saul and David – (1 Samuel 13-24)

- Psalm 27:1, 3-5, 7-8, 14

Fruit of the Spirit – Galatians 5:22-23, modified from Timothy Kellor

Love – An unconditional love and affection that selflessly serves others for their good.

Opposite: Selfish affection or fear which results in abuse.

Counterfeit: Selfish affection where you love someone for what they give you physically or how they make you feel emotionally.

Joy – Taking a deep delight in God himself and satisfaction in your life regardless of outer circumstances.

Opposite: Hopelessness and despair in life

Counterfeit: Happiness or elation because of favorable circumstance that creates mood swings.

Peace – An inner stillness and confidence in God’s wisdom and control in life, even when facing trouble.

Opposite: Anxiety and worry

Counterfeit: Apathy or not caring either way about something

Patience – The capacity to endure opposition or difficulty without overreacting because one trusts God to handle it.

Opposite: Resentment toward God or others which causes us to react to them.

Counterfeit: Holding them in contempt or just indifference

Kindness – A compassionate and humble heart that meets the needs of others. Having a deep inner security.

Opposite: Envy or resentment which leaves us unable to care

Counterfeit: Doing good for others so we can feel proud of who we are and more acceptable to God.

Goodness (i.e. integrity) – Zealously doing what is needed for the good of others. This even includes correcting someone, but with loving wisdom.

Opposite: Being truthful but not loving in our actions towards others.

Counterfeit: Doing things to make ourselves look better

Faithfulness – Being utterly reliable and true to our word because we are driven by principle. This produces loyal commitments.

Opposite: Commitments based only on immediate self-interests. A fair-weather friend.

Counterfeit: Being loving but not truthful, because of an unwillingness to confront or challenge others.

Gentleness – The right use of power for the benefit of others. Not needing to force our way in life but using self-restraint.

Opposite: Self-centered use of power.

Counterfeit: Inferiority: self-absorption, self-consciousness

Self-Control – The power the Holy Spirit gives us to master godly things instead of giving into human impulses and desires that enslave us.

Opposite: Impulsive or uncontrolled reaction to things.

Counterfeit: Exercising our own willpower out of pride or the need to feel in control (Col. 2:23).