

January 22, 2012
The Bridge Bible Fellowship
Pastor Paul S. Brown
Galatians 5:22

“Walking By The Spirit, Part Nine”

- 1) **Love** – value; worth
- 2) **Joy** – exhilaration of the heart
- 3) **Peace** – tranquility of the mind

4) Patience (Greek: makrothumia – patience; forbearance)

a) **The Scriptural Definition** – a steadfastness of soul under provocation to change / being slow to wrath / not being “short-fused” / longsuffering / exercising a gentle tolerance / endure exasperating people & frustrating circumstances without losing your cool or blowing it with your mouth / exhibiting a conquering patience

b) **The Sinful Contrast** – _____ (Eph. 4:31; Col. 3:8; Prov. 20:2; 15:1; Col. 3:21; Prov. 14:29; 15:18; 16:32; 22:24-25; 29:11; Eph. 4:26; Mk. 3:4-6)

c) **The Supreme Example** (Mk. 3:4-6; Mt. 23; Jn. 2; Lk. 17; 1 Tim. 1:16)

d) **The Specific Commands** (Col. 3:12-13; Eph. 4:2; 1 Thess. 5:14; 2 Tim. 2:24-26; 3:10; 4:2; cf. Mt. 18:21-35)

e) **The Spiritual Impact** (Prov. 19:11)

Discussion Questions:

1. Share some of the ways the Holy Spirit has made you more loving, joyful, and peaceful in recent weeks.
2. Read the definitions of “patience” on your outline. On a scale of 1 to 10 (10 being perfection), how would you rate yourself on being a patient person?
3. Is there a connection between peace and patience? What is it?
4. Do you have more difficulty being patient with circumstances or with people? Why?
5. How would a deeper understanding of the Gospel of Grace help you be a more patient person?
6. Read Mt. 18:21-35. What can you glean from this parable that helps you understand how you should treat others and why?
7. Why is anger a sinful contrast to patience? Read Eph. 4:26-27. What is the difference between anger and sinful anger? Why would not dealing with anger in a biblical manner give the devil an opportunity?
8. Read Col. 3:8. How do I put aside anger? What does that look like in practical terms? With what do I replace it? How can my choice of friends impact this area of my life (both good and bad)?
9. Does patience mean that I must be passive or do nothing when wronged? How does the example of Jesus help us answer that question?
10. Read each of the verses on your outline pertaining to Specific Commands on patience. What are we commanded to do in each verse? How are you doing in each of those areas?
11. Read James 1:2-5. What will God bring into your life to develop patience? What does He ultimately want to produce in you during this process? What are you supposed to do while He is doing this work in your life? How are you doing with that right now?
12. Read Prov. 19:11 (cf. 14:17, 29). How does discretion help me to be slow to anger? What does James 1:19-20 add to this? Think of a situation recently when you were angry and didn’t give the Holy Spirit control of the situation. How would the application of these verses (in the power of the Holy Spirit) have changed what you did? What difference do you think it would have made in the situation?
13. If you walked in the Spirit and He produced the fruit of patience in you, what specific differences would it make this week:
 - With the way you relate to your family?
 - When you drive?
 - When you are waiting in line?
 - With the way you relate to your fellow employees?
 - With the way you relate to other church members?

[Answer to blank: **Anger**]