

Sermon Series Title: "The Fruit of the Spirit"

Sermon Series Summary: In Christ, we have received new hearts and new life. With this new life, God bears the Fruit of the Spirit. It's not something we do. It's something that God grows within us through His Spirit.

"We are in our "Fruit of the Spirit" sermon series, and through this series, we see that our growth is not quantified by the works we accomplish but is defined by the fruit God's Spirit bears within us through His Son."

Call: 2 Samuel 22:32

Text: Galatians 5:22-23, 1 John 3:11-18

Title: "The Fruit of Patience"

Next Week's Call: 2 Samuel 22:33

Next Week's Text: Galatians 5:22-23, 1 Samuel 18:1-9

Next Week's Title: "The Fruit of Kindness"

Future Calls: 2 Samuel 22:47-49, 50-51

Future Titles: "The Fruit of Goodness" (Galatians 5:22-23, Luke 18:18-30)

Fallen Condition Focus: We aren't patient.

Christ redeeming FCF: God was patient, long-suffering, toward us in Christ.

Central Truth: Be patient as God was first patient with us first in Christ.

Summary: We are called to be patient as we wait on God and trust in His will. Patience is grown in hardship, and it is the will of God for us to grow in our patience. We are able to be patient with God and others, because Jesus was first patient with us, bearing our sins on the cross.

Reflective Questions:

1. What is the difference between counterfeit patience and true patience?
2. Why is it so hard for us to be patient?
3. How can we grow in our patience?

I. Introduction

- A. Hook
- B. Transition
- C. Proposition
- D. Points

II. What Patience Is Not (vv. 12, 14b, 15)

- A. The opposite of patience is not just impatience. It is resentment toward God and others. It is this resentment that leads to impatience and anger.
 - 1. Cain displays the opposite of patience. He doesn't love his brother, but instead, he hates him. Because God accepted Abel's sacrifice and not his, it was a reminder of his insufficiency and lack of faith. It led him to be resentful, growing impatient with God (not accepting his sacrifice) and with Abel (reminder of his own failure) which eventually led to the first murder in history. Resentment dehumanizes others and sees them (including God) as obstacles of obtaining the "true" desires of the heart.
- B. Counterfeit patience is cynicism or apathy. It can also be stoicism- a disconnect between your feelings and the hardship you are enduring.
 - 1. Patience is not a suppression of your feelings that will lead to resentment, bitterness, and hardness toward God and neighbor.
 - 2. Just because you're holding your temper doesn't mean you're a patient person.
 - 3. Patience is not belittling the injustice done to you.

III. What Patience Is (vv. 11, 13, 14a, 17-18)

- A. Patience is not when you don't feel angry. Patience is when you do feel anger, but you know how to deal with it.
- B. Patience is the ability to face distress without exploding.
- C. Patience understands and feels the weight of the injustice done but at the same time, it does not respond in sin.
- D. Right before our passage, John says that a child of the devil is one who does not practice righteousness and does not love. Then, John transitions to describe Cain, the epitome of hatred.
- E. Love is not just shown in words but also in deeds.
- F. Impatience dehumanizes and holds resentment. Patience humanizes, places worth in a person, and gives up the right for payment. They sacrifice emotionally and physically to gain a brother/sister.

IV. How We Get It (v. 16)

- A. While Cain is the example of resentment and hatred, Jesus is the perfect example of love and patience.
- B. While we were weak, sinful enemies, Christ came and died for us.
- C. He suffered incredible injustice as we have sinned against Him. But He laid down His rights for payment. Instead, He took the payment, so that He may gain us as his brothers and sisters. He loved us in word and deed, and it's His love that humanizes us, places worth in us, and empowers us to love and be patient in this way.