

Youth Sunday School – What is Patience? – 11/29/20

- Fighter verse
- Prayer
- New City Catechism
 - Question 17: What is idolatry? Idolatry is trusting in created things rather than the Creator for our hope and happiness, significance and security. (Romans 1:21,25)
 - Question 18: Will God allow our disobedience and idolatry to go unpunished? No, every sin is against the sovereignty, holiness, and goodness of God, and against his righteous law, and God is righteously angry with our sins and will punish them in his just judgment both in this life, and in the life to come. (Ephesians 5:5-6)

Patience

- Discuss what you think of when you think of patience.

Biblical Principles of Patience

1. God's patience delays punishment so that we might be saved.
 - Romans 2:4 "Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?"
 - 2 Peter 3:9 "The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance."
 - Why is it important that God is patient in delaying punishment?
 - God's patience allows us to be spared from punishment for the moment so that we might put our faith in Jesus and be saved. It is extremely kind and loving that God is patient, he wouldn't have to be. He has every right to punish right away!
2. Christians have patience.
 - Ecclesiastes 7:8 "the patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit."
 - Galatians 5:22 "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness"
 - Ephesians 4:1-2 "I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love,"
 - Colossians 1:10-11 "so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy;"
 - How might patience reflect that we are a Christian?
3. Patience is demonstrated by how we wait.
 - Psalm 37:7 "Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him"
 - Psalm 40:1 "I waited patiently for the Lord; he inclined to me and heard my cry"
 - Romans 8:25 "But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience."
 - Hebrews 6:15 "And thus Abraham, having patiently waited, obtained the promise."
 - Patience is something we get better at the more we practice. It also demonstrates trust.
 - What does it mean to wait patiently? What might it look like to not wait patiently? Any examples?

4. Patience is demonstrated by how we interact with others.

- Acts 26:3 "Listen to me patiently"

- 1 Corinthians 13:4 "Love is patient"

- 1 Thessalonians 5:14 "And we urge you, brothers, admonish the idle, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with them all."

- 1 Timothy 4:2 "preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching."

- What are some ways we could be patient or impatient with other believers? With unbelievers? Any examples?

5. Patience is demonstrated by how we endure suffering.

- Romans 12:12 "be patient in tribulation"

- 2 Corinthians 1:6 "you patiently endure the same sufferings that we suffer."

- Revelation 1:9 "I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus"

- Revelation 2:2-3 [Jesus speaking] "I know your works, your toil and your patient endurance, and how you cannot bear with those who are evil, but have tested those who call themselves apostles and are not, and found them to be false. I know you are enduring patiently and bearing up for my name's sake, and you have not grown weary"

- What does our patient endurance of suffering say about God?

- Definition: Patience joyfully accepts delay, suffering, and the shortcomings of others.

- Prayer Requests

For Next Time: - Read Chapter 14 of Practice of Godliness, "Patience".

- Keep memorizing the verse you've chosen.

Patience Memory Verses (pick at least 1)

- Psalm 40:1 "I waited patiently for the Lord; he inclined to me and heard my cry"

- Proverbs 25:5 "With patience a ruler may be persuaded, and a soft tongue will break a bone."

- 1 Timothy 2:24 "And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil"

- 1 Thessalonians 5:14 "And we urge you, brothers, admonish the idle, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with them all."

2 Peter 3:9 "The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance."

Study Guide

1. - Why is it important that God is patient in delaying punishment? (so that we all people have a chance to be saved, otherwise we would be immediately punished for our sin)
2. - How might patience reflect that we are a Christian? (it shows that earthly concerns are not primary, it is a fruit of the spirit, patience is ultimately not self-serving (proud) but others exalting (humble) in that it bears with one another in love/waits for God to act/gives us the ability to endure difficult times, etc.)
5. - What does our patient endurance of suffering say about God? (it says that he is faithful to work it out for good, he is trustworthy even when things might be scary, he is standing on the water reaching out his hand to us even when the waves are crashing around us, it ultimately shows that our hope is in God and nothing else, etc.)