

Youth Sunday School – Us and Patience: Patience with Others – 1/10/21

- Fighter verse
- Pray in light of fighter verse
- New City Catechism
 - Question 25: Does Christ's death mean all our sins can be forgiven? Yes, because Christ's death on the cross fully paid the penalty for our sin, God graciously imputes Christ's righteousness to us as if it were our own and will remember our sins no more. (2 Corinthians 5:21)
 - Question 26: What else does Christ's death redeem? Christ's death is the beginning of the redemption and renewal of every part of fallen creation, as he powerfully directs all things for his own glory and creation's good. (Colossians 1:19-20)
- Review patience memory verses

Review

- What is Patience?

Patience with Others

1. Responding to Provocation (Intentional)

- Provocation is the actions of others that tend to arouse anger. What are some examples of things others do that tend to arouse anger?
 - To be patient when provoked requires us to be slow to anger. Being slow to anger is a huge theme of the book of Proverbs. What does each of the following verses say about being slow to anger?
 - Proverbs 14:29 "Whoever is slow to anger has great understanding, but he who has a hasty temper exalts folly."
 - Proverbs 15:18 "A hot-tempered man stirs up strife, but he who is slow to anger quiets contention."
 - Proverbs 16:32 "Whoever is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city."
 - Proverbs 29:22 "A man of wrath stirs up strife, and one given to anger causes much transgression"
 - To develop slowness of anger we must reflect on God's slowness to anger. (Exodus 34:6 "The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.") How does God demonstrate being slow to anger?
- Responding to provocation > We don't want to simply ignore but to respond in a godly manner that works to heal relationships rather than aggravate them. We want to seek the ultimate good of the other person rather than our own immediate satisfaction of our emotions.
- What are some ways we might respond to our earlier examples of provoking situations? What are some practical things we can do when provoked? Consider these verses as well.
 - Proverbs 15:1 "A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger."
 - Proverbs 19:11 "Good sense makes one slow to anger, and it is his glory to overlook an offense."

2. Tolerating Shortcomings (Unintentional)

- This is probably a more common thing than the previous one. We are often irritated or disappointed by others (especially those close to us: friends, neighbors, family) who are not trying to irritate us. Often it is an unconscious action of someone else that is magnified either because of our close association or our own unmet expectations.

- What are some examples of situations where we may be irritated or disappointed by others who do not intend to irritate?

- Irritation with others often comes from pride, where we think we know best and are smarter or more capable. What do the following verses say about our feelings of superiority?

- 1 Corinthians 4:7 "What do you have that you did not receive? If then you received it, why do you boast as if you did not receive it?"

- 1 Corinthians 8:2 "If anyone imagines that he knows something, he does not yet know as he ought to know."

- The best word for a patient reaction to the faults and failings of others is **forbearance**. Forbearance is the gracious tolerance for others' shortcomings. In each of these passages, patience is described as bearing with one another [forbearance]. What does bearing with one another involve in these verses?

- Colossians 3:12-13 "Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive."

- Ephesians 4:2-3 "with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

- Specifically in the church, the unity of the body is far more important than petty irritations.

- Patience with others is ultimately loving them. 1 Corinthians 13:4-5 - "Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful". We can be and should be patient with others because of God's patience with us. Remember all that you have been forgiven when we look at forgiving others.

- Prayer Requests – any in light of 1 Corinthians 13?

For Next Time: - Do Bible study worksheet on James 5:7-11.

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."

- 2 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."