

Youth Sunday School – Us and Patience: Patiently Enduring – 1/3/21

- Fighter verse
- Pray in light of fighter verse
- New City Catechism
 - Question 23: Why must the Redeemer be truly God? That because of his divine nature his obedience and suffering would be perfect and effective; and also that he would be able to bear the righteous anger of God against sin and yet overcome death. (Acts 2:24)
 - Question 24: Why was it necessary for Christ, the Redeemer, to die? Since death is the punishment for sin, Christ died willingly in our place to deliver us from the power and penalty of sin and bring us back to God. By his substitutionary atoning death, he alone redeems us from hell and gains for us forgiveness of sin, righteousness, and everlasting life. (Colossians 1:21-22)
- Review patience memory verses

Review

- What is Patience?

Patiently Enduring

1. Suffering Mistreatment

- One aspect of patience is enduring the abuse of others. Another word for patience is long-suffering. Long-suffering is to suffer a long time without growing bitter or resentful.
 - What are some examples of suffering in this way?
 - Why is it so hard to suffer the mistreatment of others without growing bitter or resentful?
- Some ways we could grow in long-suffering...
 - A. Consider Jesus' example. Read 1 Peter 2:19-25. What example did Jesus set?
 - B. Remember the Lord's justice. Romans 12:19 "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." Why does God's justice allow us to suffer long?
 - C. Trust God's faithfulness. Genesis 50:20 "As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today." How could God be using for good in your life what others mean for evil?
 - D. Any other ways?

2. Persevering through Adversity

- Long-suffering is our patient response to people. Perseverance and endurance are our patient responses to circumstances. What are some adverse circumstances we could face?
 - Endurance is the ability to stand up under adversity (it doesn't keep us down, we can still stand). Perseverance is the ability to progress in spite of it (it doesn't keep us back, we can still advance). We must have endurance in order to persevere – endurance is like step 1 and perseverance is step 2. What might endurance vs. perseverance look like in some of the examples of adverse circumstances we listed?
- Some ways we could grow in endurance and perseverance...
 - A. Believe God is sovereign. What does it mean that God is sovereign?
 - 1 Peter 4:19 "Therefore let those who suffer according to God's will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good." Who is in control of our suffering? How should that make us feel and why?

B. Believe God works for our good. According to these verses, what good things does suffering produce? Or if God is working for our good why does he let us suffer?

- Romans 8:28-29 "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son"

- James 1:2-4 "Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing."

- Romans 5:3-4 "we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope"

- It is interesting in the last 2 verses that trials produce the very thing we need to get through trials.

- Hebrews 12:11 "For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it."

C. Be in God's Word. Romans 15:4 "For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope." We often do not know the reason for trials but the Scriptures give hope and hope leads to perseverance. What kinds of things do we hope for that would encourage us to persevere?

"He has said, 'I will never leave you nor forsake you.'" – Hebrews 13:5

- 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."