

# YEAR OF GROWTH

## PATIENCE WEEK 1

### EXPLANATION

#### Definitions:

The Greek word used in 2 Peter 1:6 means “endurance, steadfastness, or constancy.” The root word means: “to remain, to stay under, to undergo; thus, to bear, to have fortitude, to persevere.” Biblically, patience means “cheerful or hopeful endurance.” Thayer defined it as: “The characteristic of a man who is not swerved from his deliberate purpose and his loyalty to faith and piety by even the greatest trials and sufferings.”

There is a second Greek word that is sometimes translated as ‘patience.’ This word means “forbearance, endurance, or patience.” Its root word means: “with long (enduring) temper, lenience, patience with another.” It is a willingness to suffer long with another, even if it is not deserved. Thus, this word conveys the idea of being longsuffering – being patient with people. Thayer defined it as: “Slowness in avenging wrongs.”

#### Day One – Sunday

Reflect on the previous lessons concerning faith, virtue, knowledge, and temperance. It is in our faith and to our faith that we are to add patience. Think upon the definitions of the words that God used to describe patience. Pray for wisdom in understanding this characteristic. Pray for strength as you prepare for this study.

#### Day Two – Monday

##### Romans 8:18-25

Patience involves waiting. There are things that the Christian hopes for but does not see immediately. (Biblical hope is desire joined with expectation.) Thus, the child of God must learn to wait. Yet, even the word translated as ‘wait’ three times in this passage means, “to expect fully; to look or wait for with expectation.” Patience means that no matter the hardship or suffering, one continues to endure with expectation.

#### Day Three – Tuesday

##### Romans 15:1-4

Patience grows out of a knowledge of the Scriptures. By learning of the faithfulness of God, one comes to rely upon His promises. Thus, patience is defined as an endurance based upon the knowledge of the character of God.

Day Four – Wednesday**I Corinthians 13:4-7**

Patience grows out of love. A love for God will motivate one to endure the tests and trials of life. A love for another will cause one to suffer long with their mistakes and faults. A love for one's own soul will produce endurance in temptation and persecution.

Day Five – Thursday**I Thessalonians 1:1-4**

Patience is a product of hope. Paul remembered and gave thanks for their cheerful endurance of expectation in Jesus. When one's hope is in Christ, he or she will remain steadfast no matter the obstacle to be overcome or the burden to be born. Again, patience is seen as steadfast endurance.

Day Six – Friday**Hebrews 6:9-15**

Patience is an outgrowth of faith. Bible faith is a total trust in God that results in obedience to His will. One who trusts in God knows that he will receive what the Lord has promised. Yet, he also understands that the reward is not received until after he has patiently endured.

Day Seven – Saturday**Colossians 1:9-14**

Patience is tied directly to joy. Because it is built upon faith, hope, love, and knowledge, the Christian's patience is joyful. The circumstances to be endured may not be pleasant, but the Christian's disposition is! The child of God knows that at the end of the journey the faithfulness and love of the Lord will both conquer and be made manifest. Thus, the Christian endures steadfastly and joyfully.