

The Me I Want to Be

Galatians 5:22-23 – Patience

*You are writing the Gospel a chapter each day
by the deeds that you do and the words that you say.
And people read what you write, distorted or true,
so what is the Gospel according to you?*

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Galatians 5:22 The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,²³ gentleness and self-control.

John 15:8 “When you produce much fruit, you are my true disciples. This brings great glory to my Father.”

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1. *How is patience defined?*

Exodus 34:6 ... And God passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, “The Lord, the Lord, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, ⁷ maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin.

makrothumia - *makro* - ‘long’ + *thumos* – ‘temper or anger’ - ‘long-tempered’.

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Jonah 4:1 But it greatly displeased Jonah and he became angry. ² He prayed to the Lord and said, “Please Lord, was not this what I said while I was still in my *own* country? Therefore in order to forestall this I fled to Tarshish, for I knew that You are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abundant in lovingkindness, and one who relents concerning calamity. (NASB)

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2 Peter 3:9 The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

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1 Timothy 1:12 I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, that he considered me trustworthy, appointing me to his service. ¹³ Even though I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and unbelief. ¹⁴ The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.

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¹⁵ Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst. ¹⁶ But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his immense patience as an example for those who would believe in him and receive eternal life.

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2. How is the character trait of patience displayed or demonstrated in us?

Ephesians 4:2 Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.

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Colossians 3:12 Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.¹³ Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone.

Romans 12:10 Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. ...¹² Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction ...

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3. *How is patience developed in our lives?*

James 1:2 My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, ³ knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. ⁴ But let patience have *its* perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete ... (NKJV)

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The background of the quote is a photograph of a path leading through a forest with trees displaying vibrant autumn foliage in shades of orange, red, and brown. The path is covered with fallen leaves, and the overall scene is softly lit, suggesting a peaceful, natural setting.

**When you're
tempted to lose
patience with
someone, think
how patient
God has been
with you all
the time.**