

AN INVITATION TO A JOURNEY



SMALL GROUP GUIDE



HOW DID IT GO?

Did you...

- meditate on Christ's humility in Philippians 2:8?
- pray for greater submission to the Holy Spirit to form you into Christ-likeness?
- remember to treat everyone as though Christ is all, and in all?
- think about a time when a Christian cautioned you humbly and honestly in a Christ-like way? Did you speak a hard truth to someone you love, remembering to do so with humility? Or maybe you encouraged someone to have greater intimacy with their creator, of which sin and pride do not allow?
- respond to someone who needed help with humility?

Scripture Passages

Colossians 3:1-2, 12 Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. 12 Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

1 Peter 2:21-23 To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. 22 "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." 23 When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly.

HEAD (15-20 MINUTES)

Read aloud the passages for this week.

1. How are patience and perseverance different and/or complementary?
2. How does Colossians 3:12 connect the patience we are called to exhibit with our identity before God?
3. How does 1 Peter 2:21-23 connect the patient perseverance that we are called to exhibit with the Christ we follow?

HEART (15-20 MINUTES)

1. Are you more prone to be patient without persevering, or to persevere without patience? If willing, share an example.
2. How would living into your identity as God's chosen, holy, and beloved child enable you to be more patient with others?

OCTOBER 10

SERMON TITLE:

Patience and Perseverance

SCRIPTURE:

Colossians 3:1-2, 12
1 Peter 2:21-23

➤ **Head**

Observe the text and the author's main points.

➤ **Heart**

Envision how the text—when applied—might transform your inner life in terms of your thoughts, attitudes, and behaviors.

3. How would believing the historical reality that Christ patiently persevered specifically for you enable you to patiently persevere for others?

HANDS (10 MINUTES)

Reaching Upward: Growing in Your Relationship with God

- If you are more prone to be patient than to persevere, pray for God to show you an area of your life in which you can add Christ-like perseverance to your patience.
- If you are more prone to persevere than to be patient, pray for God to show you an area of your life in which you can add Christ-like patience to your perseverance.

Reaching Outward: Investing in Your Neighbors

- If you have neglected a relationship because of the patience it requires, take a concrete step this week in Christ's power to persevere in that relationship.
- If your perseverance in a relationship has come at the cost of your patience, take a concrete step this week in Christ's power to demonstrate patience with that person.

Reaching Beyond

- Any other way God is stirring you to put this passage into practice?

➤ **Hands**

Apply the text by moving from inward reflection to outward action looking for practical ways to live the text out in our lives to serve others.

➤ **Neighbor**

Anyone in your life—whether a friend, colleague, family member, classmate, or literal neighbor—to whom you can show God's love.

