



Helping Kids Grow in Patience God's Way

When Waiting Feels Impossible

Raising Christ-Centered Kids | Character | The Fruit of the Spirit: Patience

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“And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.”
(Galatians 6:9, *ESV*)

Key Takeaway

Patience means waiting with a good attitude, trusting God's timing and care.

The Biblical Meaning of Patience

Patience means waiting with trust instead of frustration. The Holy Spirit grows patience in us like fruit—helping us to stay steady, hopeful, and kind when life feels slow or people are difficult. Just as fruit doesn't ripen overnight, patience takes time. A seed must be planted, watered, and cared for before it becomes sweet and ready to enjoy. God does the same work in our hearts through His Spirit, teaching us to slow down, breathe, pray, and love while we wait.

The Bible says, “The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you” (2 Peter 3:9, *ESV*). We are also told, “Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him” (Psalm 37:7, *ESV*). “Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer” (Romans 12:12, *ESV*).

Patience reflects God's own nature—He does not rush, yet His timing is always perfect. True patience flows from love; it's not only the strength to wait but the grace to wait with peace. When we choose patience, we trust that God is working even when we can't see it.



Understanding Patience: When Waiting Feels Impossible

Waiting in line, waiting for a turn, or waiting for prayers to be answered can all feel impossible. Kids (and parents) often want to rush ahead or give up when things take too long. But patience isn't doing nothing; it's choosing to trust that God's timing is better than ours.

In those hard-to-wait moments, help your child pause and name the feeling: "This wait feels long, doesn't it?" Then guide them to respond with faith by taking a deep breath, saying a short prayer, or finding a way to help someone else. When we turn our attention from "what we want" to "what God is doing," the waiting time becomes growing time.

Patience is love stretched over time. It's what holds peace in our hearts when life says, "not yet." And the more we practice it, the more we begin to see that God's delays are never meant to harm us but to form us.

Practical Steps: Growing in Patience with God's Help

1. **Take a Breath** – Count to five slowly before reacting.
2. **Pray in the Wait** – Whisper: "Lord, help me wait with love."
3. **Think of Others** – Remember others have needs too.
4. **Practice Turn-Taking** – Play games that require waiting and cheer while others take their turn.
5. **Celebrate Growth** – Notice and praise even small moments of patience.

Scripture for Parents and Kids

- "Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him; (Psalms 37:7, *ESV*)
- "The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you." (2 Peter 3:9, *ESV*)
- "Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer." (Romans 12:12, *ESV*)

Encouragement for Parents

Patience doesn't grow in a day; it matures slowly, like fruit on a tree. Each small choice to wait with peace shapes your child's heart toward trust and love. God uses daily frustrations to teach lifelong faithfulness.

When you model patience at home like pausing before reacting or speaking gently when stressed, you show your child what Spirit-led living looks like. God's patience toward us is our pattern for showing patience toward others. Keep trusting His timing, even in the slow seasons. His delays are never wasted; they prepare us for His perfect work.

CTMP Corner: Kingdom Kids in Action

- **Connect:** Talk about what is hardest to wait for.
- **Teach:** Patience shows love while we wait.
- **Model:** Play waiting games to practice patience with joy.
- **Pray:** Ask God for help to wait calmly and trust His timing.