

Love Is

“Patient on the Inside, Kind on the Outside”

Greg Wendschlag November 1, 2017

“And now I will show you the most excellent way...Love is patient, love is kind.” 1 Cor. 13:1,4

- Patience and kindness are love’s **passive** and **active** response to others.
- Patient – makrothumos – the ability to be inconvenienced over and over without becoming angry
- Kind - chrestos – to show yourself useful.

1. Principles of Patience

- Patience is only necessary in **conflict**.

“And the Lord’s servant must not be quarrelsome but kindly to everyone, an apt teacher, patient”
2 Tim. 2:24

- Patience **puts up with** people without retaliation.

“Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil about you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven.” Mt. 5:11

- Patience requires **endurance** and waits for the **right timing**.

“Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains.” Jms. 5:7

2. Characteristics of Kindness

- Jesus Is kind to **everyone**.

“And the Lord’s servant must not quarrel; instead, he must be kind to everyone.” 2 Tim 2:24

- Be kind to your **enemies**. Lk. 6:35
- Be kind to the **needy**. Prov. 14:21, 14:31, 19:17
- Be kind to the **family of God**. Gal. 6:10

- Use kind **words**.

“An anxious heart weighs a man down, but a kind word cheers him up.” Prov. 12:25

- Be **generous**.

*"The wicked borrow, and do not pay back, but the righteous are **generous** and keep giving."*
Prov. 21:37,

3. God is patient and kind to us.

- God never asks you to do anything for anybody else that **He hasn't already done** for you.
- God is **merciful** – does not give us the judgment we deserve
- God is **gracious** – gives us the blessing we do not deserve
- God is being patient with us so **none will perish**. 2 Pet. 3:9
- Kindness of God leads to **repentance**. Rom. 2:4

"I've given you an example...now do as I have done to you." John 13:15

Discussion Starters for your GIC this week!

1. Although "God is being patient with us so that none should perish", there will be a time when His wrath and judgment will come. Does that "end of patience" idea apply to us as well? Explain why you think the way you do.
2. Does "patient endurance" mean you have to allow yourself to be abused? Why or why not?
3. In light of God's kindness to you, how can you show kindness to someone else today? Make a plan to do it and not just think about it.
4. How can you use your words and money to show kindness to your enemies?