

The fruit of the Spirit is ... patience (Galatians 5:22)

Introduction

- How common is patience today?
- What is the first characteristic of love in I Corinthians 13:4-7?

i What is patience

- What does the Greek word μακροθυμία (makrothumia) mean?
- What does the Greek word ὑπομονή (hypomone) mean?
- Which is used in Galatians 5:22?

ii Where do we see patience?

- What does I Timothy 1:15-16 teach about Jesus' patience?
- Give an example of how we see his patience with his disciples.
- Give an example of how we see his patience with others in Israel.
- Give an example of how we see his patience when interrupted.
- How do we see his patience in his last days especially?
- What does this mean for our relationship with him?
- What does II Peter 3:9 teach about the time before Christ's promised return?
- What will be the case once Christ has returned?
- What do you need to do if you are not a Christian?

### iii How do we grow patience?

- How do we grow the fruit of the Spirit in general?
- Which passage helps us to grow patience?
- And what does it teach us to do?
- How does this help if someone is tormenting you?
- How does this help if you are enduring some distressing circumstances?

### iv Why do we need patience?

- What does impatience often lead to?
- What does Moses' impatience with the Israelites lead to in Numbers 20:9-12?
- What do the church's present imperfections mean for our relationships?
- What, then, do we need?
- In what ways are we sometimes impatient with God?
- What can happen if we indulge these thoughts?
- What truths about God can help you to be patient when he seems slow?
- Give a passage which teaches this.
- Why else do we need patience?

### Conclusion

- Can you see this aspect of the fruit of the Spirit in your life?