

# Christian Life Notes

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## PATIENCE

How many paper chains have you made?

I like to cut paper strips, loop each strip around another strip, apply glue, and create a pattern. A simple task, requiring little patience. I can connect the two ends of the chain creating a circle. I can become impatient if the paper circle disconnects.

Patience is one fruit of the Spirit.

The fruit of the Spirit is the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives because we know the saving grace of our Lord. We are a child of God learning to trust him with all our heart, mind and soul. His steadfast love endures forever. Life is full of challenges and our fears and worries render them to impatience. We are unsure of the solution to the challenge, feeling anxious and discontent.

*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. (Galatians 5:22-23).*

Patience is intimately connected to our faith. We are strengthened by His Word.

A daily devotion, time in the Word and prayer, can provide a comforting and peaceful pattern to our daily lives.

*Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, (1 Thessalonians 5:16-17).*

*“And whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith.” (Matthew 21:22).*

*I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. (Ephesians 4:1-3).*

Jesus provides us with the best example of being patient. I think of the crowds that surrounded him, the disciples whom he taught, but did not always understand, the many whom he healed, and all the miles he walked. (He had to have had a few blisters!) Then he was nailed to a cross. Jesus did all this and much more, just to save us!

Our impatience can turn to patience when we trust God and follow these words written in Psalm 46:10.

*“Be still, and know that I am God.  
I will be exalted among the nations,*



*I will be exalted in the earth!”*

Janet Schultz  
Vice President of Communication

Picture: Schultz Family Photos