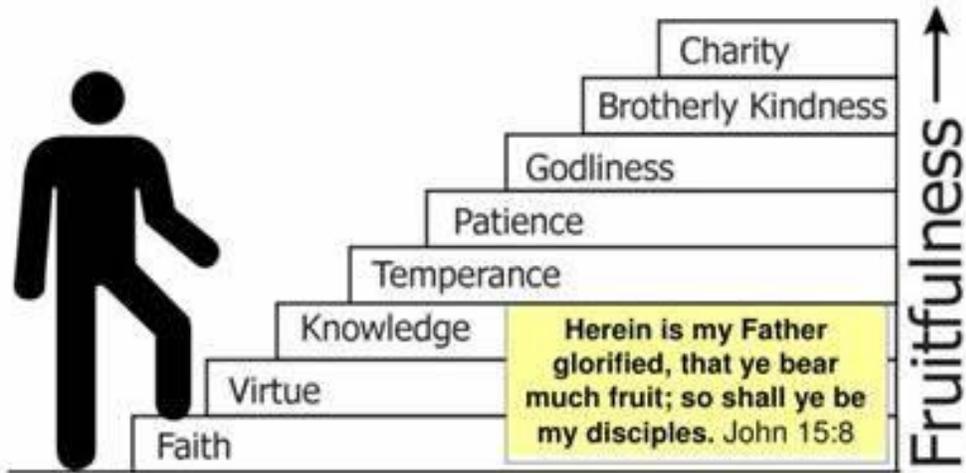


# God's Call to Spiritual Growth

The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way. Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the LORD upholdeth him with his hand. Psalm 37:23,24



# FEBRUARY BIBLE STUDY SERIES

# SOLID STEPS OF CHRISTIAN GROWTH

**Lesson Seven:**  
**Add To Your Faith Patience**  
**(Perseverance)**  
**Part I**

**“Patience means trusting  
God even when  
circumstances haven’t yet  
changed.”**

**Scripture Lesson:**  
**II Peter 1:5-7**

**II Peter 1:5-7 (KJV), And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance PATIENCE; and to PATIENCE godliness; And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.**

**Spiritual Patience is a heart  
attitude of self-restraint and  
calmness.**

**"Patience is A virtue."**

**Patience is commonly defined  
as “the capacity to accept or  
tolerate delay, trouble, or  
suffering without getting angry  
or upset.”**

**The lack of patience demonstrates ungodly thinking that is without the protection and knowledge of God and leads to injustices and unmerciful treatment of others.**

**The opposites of patience are  
haste, stress, worry, anxiety.  
Signs of impatience include  
irritability, on edge, stressed-out,  
frustration.**

**Waiting on the Lord shapes our  
Christian character.**

**The Greek word primarily used for patience in the KJV is "hypomone", and it means "cheerful (or hopeful) endurance, constancy: - continuance (waiting)."**

# **The Difficulties Of Patience**

**Patience is ONLY developed by  
troubles, and delays, and  
disappointments.**

**Psalm 37:7, “Be still before the  
Lord, and wait patiently for  
Him.”**

**Living Means Waiting.**

**Patience is hitting the  
emotional, physical, social,  
or spiritual pause button.**

**“Patience is bitter, but its  
fruit is sweet.”**

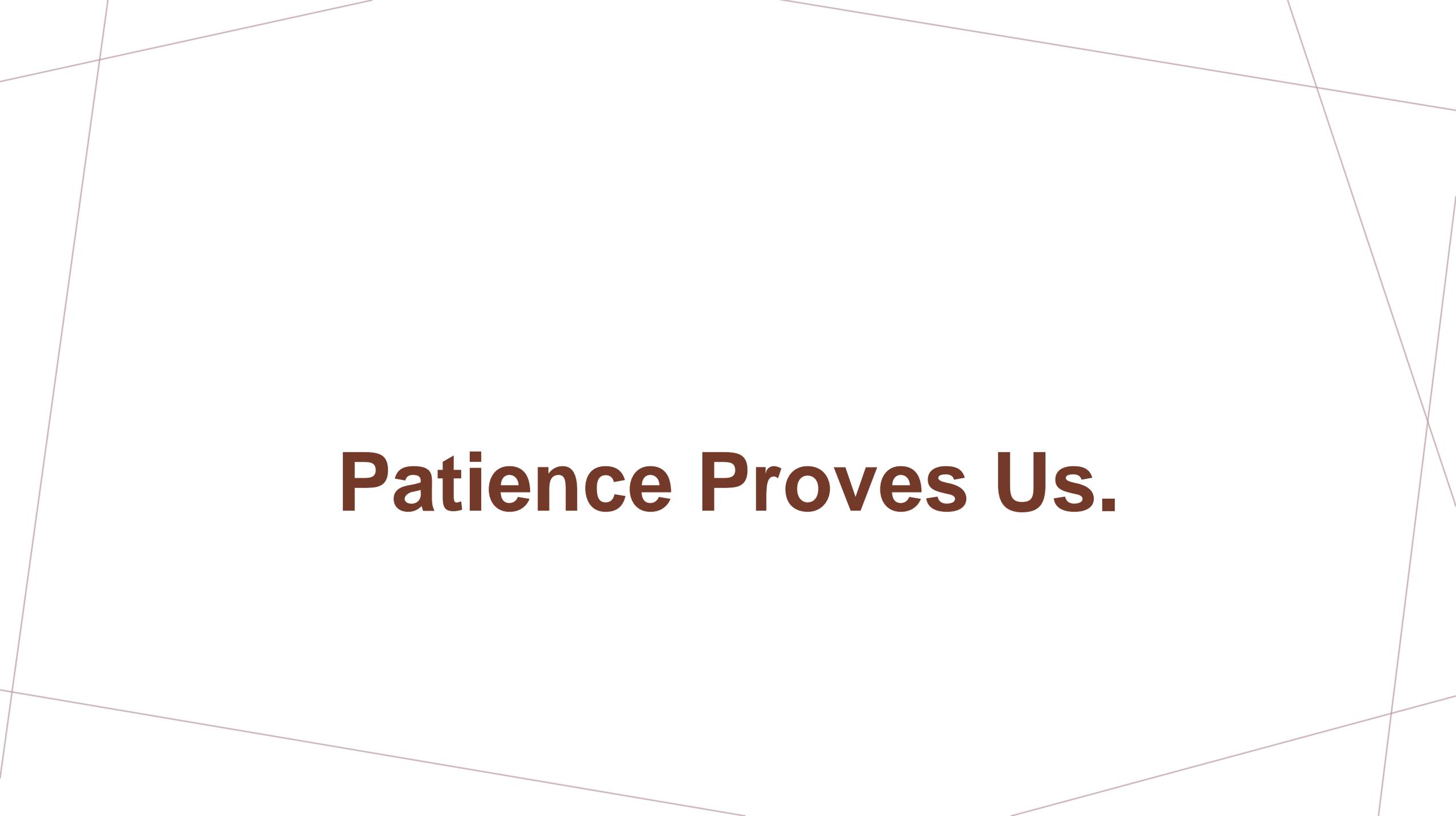
# **The Work Of Patience**

**James 1:2-4, My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have *its* perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.**

**Patience Perfects Us.**

# **Without Patience:**

- **Love has no foundation**
- **Life becomes just a string of disappointments**
- **Prayer becomes DEMANDS**
- **Child-rearing becomes drudgery and depressing**
- **The bible becomes long and hard when reading.**
- **Souls to you will become unworthy and**



**Patience Proves Us.**

**Patience Pleases God.**

The background features several thin, light brown lines that intersect to form various geometric shapes, including triangles and quadrilaterals, creating a subtle grid-like pattern.

# **Three Ways God Has Designed Patience To Work On Us:**

# 1.THROUGH TROUBLES

**Romans 8:28, And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.**

**Romans 5:3,4, And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance, and perseverance, character; and character, hope.**

**"It's through tribulation  
that we learn patience."**

**“They who wait on the Lord can  
bear the weight of adversity.”**

**When the world says, “give up,” hope whispers, “try it one more time!”**

## **2. THROUGH TIMES**

**James 5:7; Therefore, be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. See *how* the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, waiting patiently for it until it receives the early and latter rain.**

**Psalm 37:5, Commit your  
way to the Lord, trust also  
in Him, And He shall bring  
it to pass.**

# **3.THROUGH CONSTANT TESTING**

**James 1:12, Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.**

**God gives us tests to make us  
BETTER Christians, not  
BITTER Christians.**

**1 Peter 1:7, That the genuineness of your faith, *being* much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ,**

**Job 23:10, But He knows the way that I take; When He has tested me, I shall come forth as gold.**

# **EXAMPLES OF PATIENCE:**

# Job

**James 5:11, Indeed we count them blessed who endure. You have heard of the perseverance of Job and seen the end *intended by* the Lord—that the Lord is very compassionate and merciful.**

# Abraham

**Hebrews 6:13-15, For when God made a promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself, saying, “Surely blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply you.” And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise.**

**AREAS THAT NEED LOTS OF  
PATIENCE:**

# **We Need Lots Of Patience In:**

- Tribulation**
- Delays**
- Injustices**
- Battles**
- Giving-up**

# **How To Add Patience To Your Attitude:**

## **How to Add Patience:**

- **Let God Develop It in You.**
- **Learn to Pray Through the Trials.**
- **Work Patiently.**
- **Thank God in Everything.**
- **Look Ahead.**
- **Desire the Crown.**

# **What Does Patience Do for You?**

- **It Renews our Strength.**
- **It Prepares Us.**
- **It Teaches Us to Trust God.**
- **It Shows You are a Strong Christian.**

**“Patience is not the ability to wait, but the ability to keep a good attitude while waiting.”**

## **Bible Study Follow Up Chat**

- 1. Why do you think patience is important to God?**
- 2. In what ways is patience a part of God's character?**
- 3. In what ways has God shown patience to you?**
- 4. Patience does not always mean choosing not to act. Often it means choosing when to act. Should we have limits on our patience with others? What would those limits be—and why?**

**5. Are there specific triggers (conversation subjects, personality quirks, common interactions, certain people, etc.) that make it easy for you to lose your patience? What about these triggers make it difficult to stay patient? are there ways you can prepare yourself in advance to better handle them when you encounter them?**

**6. What aspects of your own personality are most likely to test the patience of others? What can you do to change that?**

**7. Patience requires endurance. When you are tempted to give into frustration and anger, what are some steps you can take to continue enduring?**