



Home Group Questions

Preaching Series	Holy Spirit - Person, Presence, Power
Preach Title	Patience
Date & Preacher	16/02/20 - Tim Cowles
Bible Passage	John 8:2-11

Intro - What are some of the things that test your patience and why?

Tim shared on Sunday statistics from a report undertaken by the 'British Association of Anger Management' suggesting that Britain is becoming an angrier nation - What do you think of some of these findings? Have you experienced any of these for yourself?

*More than 80% of drivers say they have been involved in road rage incidents;
25% have committed an act of road rage themselves.*

50% of us have reacted to computer problems by hitting our PC, hurling parts of it around, screaming or abusing our colleagues.

33% of Britons are not on speaking terms with their neighbours.

More than one in ten (12%) say that they have trouble controlling their own anger

More than one in four people (28%) say that they worry about how angry they sometimes feel.

One in five of people (20%) say that they have ended a relationship or friendship with someone because of how they behaved when they were angry.

Almost a third of people polled (32%) say they have a close friend or family member who has trouble controlling their anger.

GPs report that they have few options for helping patients who come to them with problem anger.

58% of people wouldn't know where to seek help if they needed help with an anger problem.

What does being 'patient' mean to you?

When Paul writes to the Galatians in chapter 5:22-23 he uses the greek word *Makrothumia* 'mak-roth-oo-mee-ah' and it means to have a 'Long [Makro] Temper [Thumia]'.

Read John 8:2-11

We looked at two parts to this story:

1. How Jesus demonstrates patience with the crowd
2. How Jesus is patient with the woman

What stands out to you when looking at Jesus' response to the two parts of the story?

We explored a few practical steps that we can consider when finding ourselves requiring patience.

- Take a moment - *James 1:19-20*
- Be Calm - *Proverbs 15:18*
- Choose your words carefully - *Colossians 4:6 & Proverbs 12:18*

Are some easier than others for you? Do you have any practical steps you use?



Jesus didn't bring judgement or condemnation over the woman who was caught in adultery but he then instructed her to leave her life of sin. Read 2 Tim 4:2 and Ephesians 4:15 - How do we check or make sure when we bring correction, rebuke or encouragement it is from a place of love and not judgement or condemnation?

We all have received patience from God and can develop our patience for those around us. Pray together that we will be able to show the patience God has shown us to our neighbours, friends, colleagues, family and strangers. Pray also for relationships that have broken down that they might be restored.

Elizabeth encouraged us at the end of the service to read the Bible because there's so much good common-sense help that can be found to support us every day.

Other passages to explore:

Matthew 7 – Do not judge others

1 Corinthians 13 – Love is...