

## Unlimited Patience

We often ask couples that have been married a number of years the secret to their marriage. It is amazing how many couples respond with some thought about patience. It truly is a virtue that can help heal wounds, overcome obstacles, make the attainment of goals that much more sweet, and inspire thankfulness in the hearts of those that receive it from others. Couples that learn to practice patience in their relationship find that their intimacy grows in unique and powerful ways.

Learning to demonstrate patience is a challenging task. Stanislaw J. Lec, a Polish writer and survivor of the Holocaust, wrote in the book *Unkempt Thoughts*, "You must first have a lot of patience to learn to have patience." We couldn't agree with this quote more. Fortunately, patience is a Fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22), which means that it is something that is available to each one of us. In other words, you can learn to have patience because Christ has already made it freely available to you. However, it is up to each person to harvest it in their life.

In 1 Timothy 1:15-16, Paul writes about how Christ demonstrated unlimited patience with him even when he was at his worst. Paul says that he did this as an example of how Christ is willing to do that for each one of us. How do you respond to your spouse when they are at their worst? Do you demonstrate patience and pray for them? Limited patience is often not an easy thing, let alone unlimited patience. Is it any wonder that couples that have been married many years reveal it as the secret to their marriage?

We'd like to challenge you to spend time going through the Patience Journey on our website to explore the impact that patience can have in your marriage.

Blessings,

Brian and Trudy

Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst. But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his unlimited patience as an example for those who would believe on him and receive eternal life."  
- 1 Timothy 1:15-16