



OVERCOME IMPATIENCE

Impatience is the result of our human sinful nature that wants things done immediately. Patience is a fruit of the Spirit that allows for a slower, more thought out, response. God’s nature shows us He is patient because He is merciful, gracious, compassionate, loving, and forgiving. These are the attributes that lead to patience.

In the video, *Overcome Impatience*, Pastor Clayton Wilfer shares what is essential for us to overcome impatience. He informs us that we are impatient due to our nature, and the way to overcome it is through transforming our sin nature to be more conformed to God’s nature.

First: Watch the *Overcome Impatience* video featuring Pastor Clayton Wilfer, Senior Pastor of Joy Church.

***Please note:** We use the first person throughout our study guides. We do this with the hope that it will enable you to overcome your personal struggle (in this case with impatience) and to grow in your personal relationship with God.

Dive Deeper

What is your biggest pet peeve (the thing that irritates you the most about others)?

Clayton says that following tips or techniques to try correct impatience is like putting a band-aid on a cut, because the true issue is not our behavior, but our nature.

Read Exodus 32:1–6. What happened to the Israelites when they were impatiently waiting for Moses to come down from the mountain?

Additional Thoughts:

How can acting impatiently cause you to distance yourself from wholehearted devotion to God?

Additional Thoughts:

The LORD passed before him and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin" (Exod 34:6–7a ESV).

What is the definition of mercy that Clayton gives in this video?

Why/How does God's mercy, compassion, and love lead to patience?

What are some forms of impatience that you have observed in your own life?

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 (James 1:3–4 CSB).

James teaches that when our faith is tested, it produces patience. Other words for patience in this context are *endurance, perseverance and steadfastness*. You need to be patient to *gain* patience. When patience has been completed and matured in you, you won't be lacking.

In what areas of your life could you grow in patience?

Tools to Overcome Impatience

1. Realize impatience is part of human nature.

It is not something you can effectively overcome by following a set of rules or techniques or by depending on self-effort.

2. You need to know God's nature to be transformed through His nature.

God's nature is stated in Exodus: The LORD passed before him and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin" (Exod 34:6-7a ESV).

Knowing that God has mercy on you when you do not deserve it and forgives your sins helps motivate you to extend mercy to others rather than get angry or rush into an unwise reaction. Following God's example, how can you be gracious to those with different opinions without retaliating and using harsh words?

Additional Thoughts:

Recap

In summary, the best way to overcome impatience is summarized below.

1. Understand it is human nature to experience and struggle with impatience.
2. Know God's nature and be transformed into His nature.
3. Be sure that you have accepted Jesus Christ as Lord and spend time daily in prayer and the Word of God.
4. Pray for patience, part of the fruit of the Holy Spirit, to be manifested in your life as you abide in Jesus Christ.

Live It Out

- Memorize some Bible verses on patience for meditation and application.
- When you sense aggravation emerging, ask God for patience in the situation.

- Keep in mind that others might be experiencing a difficult time.
- Practice patience in your everyday interactions, like when you are in traffic or at the grocery store.
- Remember God is merciful with you when you do not deserve it. Therefore, practice being merciful with others.

Additional Thoughts:

Salvation through Jesus

If you don't know Jesus as your Lord and Savior, we encourage you to visit www.anchorpointmedia.org/the-truth. There you will discover the truth of who Jesus is and how you can have a relationship with Him.

About Pastor Clayton Wilfer

Pastor Clayton Wilfer is the Senior Pastor of JOY Church in Fountain Hills, Arizona. He has a passion for sharing the Gospel message in a simple, yet easy to understand manner. His teachings are firmly grounded in the Word of God. Prior to leading JOY Church, he served as pastor at Word of Life Church in Upsala, Minnesota

About Anchor Point Media

We create Christ-centered videos and material to encourage people to seek the Truth of who Christ is and to grow deeper in their relationships with God.

We partner with Bible scholars and Bible-teaching pastors & leaders who teach biblically-sound doctrine. The teachers we work with have hearts to reach the lost, to bring hope to the hopeless, and to strengthen relationships with our LORD & Savior.

With God's help, we are actively transforming lives with the Love, Truth, and Hope of Jesus.

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