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Daily Devotional - Monday, August 23, 2021 - Developing Patience

AUGUST 23RD 2021 BY DEE LOFLIN

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Colossians 3:12-17

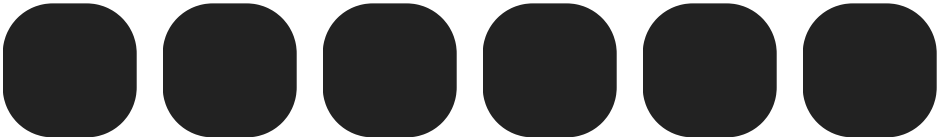
On any given day, we may encounter frustrating people and situations, such as a mischievous child, uncooperative coworker, or slow commute. We might feel like lashing out, but God wants us to stay calm and be patient with everyone ([1 Thess. 5:14](#)). Scripture has a number of things to say about believers developing this important attribute.

First, it is our calling. God urges us to be tolerant, kind, and bear each other's burdens ([Eph. 4:1-3](#)). Second, the Lord has set an example for us: He demonstrated patience toward Peter's actions, the crowd's demands, and the leaders' false accusations. We should aspire to such composure. And third, we should recognize how damaging impatience is. It can hurt others and close off dialogue. Responding calmly gives people room to confess wrongdoing, explain their attitude, and make changes.

Patience is part of the spiritual fruit that increasingly develops as we're conformed to Christ's image ([Gal. 5:22-23](#)). When we rely on the Holy Spirit, He empowers us to wade through moments of waiting and provocation—without becoming agitated. A calm demeanor in times of delay or adversity can be a powerful witness to the transforming work of God.

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