

LIFE GROUP STUDY GUIDE:

(60-minute session—03-1-20)

Message Series: This series is about living, rather than just existing. It's about living an unlimited life in Christ. It's about confronting the obstacles that keep us from moving forward as faithful followers of Jesus. It's about challenging us to be so focused that we will no longer settle for merely existing.

Today's lesson is a continued exploration of the "Fruit" produced by the Holy Spirit in our lives.

Unlimit – Patience: three keys to help us develop God's patience in our lives

1. I need to remember God exercises _____ with _____!

When you think about God, do you think of Him as being patient? Why or why not?

Read Exodus 34:5-7 alongside Psalm 103:6-18 – What did you learn about God's patience? Can you think of some specific stories in the Bible where we see God's patience towards people?

Where would we be if God wasn't patient with us? Can you think of an example where God was patient with you? Why do you think patience is included in the Fruit of the Spirit? How do you think reflecting on God's patience can help us be more patient?

2. We need to exercise _____ with _____

Being patient in our culture is a struggle. But when our patience runs out someone is going to get hurt. Can you think of a time you were hurt by someone else's impatience?

Read **Colossians 3:12-13**. How does this passage call Christians to act towards one another?

Do you think there are exceptions? Why or why not?

What do you think it means to bear with each other?

How can we exercise patience with each other as our church goes through changes and growth?

3. With _____ and _____ we must _____ to the end

Patience isn't just having a long fuse in regards to your anger. Patience is also deeply intertwined with perseverance. What role do you think patience has in maintaining perseverance in our walk with Jesus?

What are some situations in life that require "Much patience and perseverance"?

What are some situations where you might be tempted to give up?

What are some things that help you patiently endure in tough circumstances?

We develop patience by inviting God to walk with us through the everyday experiences that try and test us and asking Him, "How do You want me to respond like Jesus in this situation?"

What did we say God is always doing in the life of a Christian?

- God what are you doing? Forming _____

Do you ever wonder what God is doing in your life?

How does knowing God's ultimate purpose for our lives help us develop patience?

What are some situations where God wants you to start asking "How do you want me to look more like Jesus in this situation?"

Who are some people God wants you to start looking more like Jesus to – Can you ask God to help soften your heart towards them and help you exercise patience love with them?