

Building Great Relationships

The Power of Patience

I. Introduction

A. Genesis 2:18 (NAS)

B. Love is to be the foundation for all of our relationships!

1. The first thing you'll need in order to develop healthy, loving relationships is patience.

2. I Corinthians 13:4a (NAS)

II. Why Is Patience So Vital in Relationships?

A. Because everybody is different.

1. Romans 12:6a (NAS)

2. Five factors that make you different from other people:

a. Spiritual gifts

b. Heart: motivations and interests

c. Natural abilities and skills

d. Personality

i. Sanguine

ii. Melancholy

iii. Choleric

iv. Phlegmatic

e. Life experiences

B. Because our differences create misunderstandings.

1. I Thessalonians 5:14b (NAS)

III. How to Be More Patient With People

A. Remember how patient God is with you.

1. I Timothy 1:16a (NLT)

2. Romans 15:7 (NAS)

B. Listen carefully to other people and try to understand them better.

1. Proverbs 19:11a (NAS)

2. If you want to be more patient with people, you must be more understanding of them.

a. You can do this by listening to them.

b. Proverbs 18:13 (NAS)

3. Research has shown that only 7% of the meaning of what you say is communicated in words; 43% comes from how you say it; 50% is communicated by non-verbal language.

C. Understand and appreciate the differences between men and women

1. Physical, emotions and hormones

2. Goal-oriented vs. Relationship-oriented

3. Women crave intimacy

4. Friends: Face-to-Face vs. Side by Side

5. Other miscellaneous differences between the sexes

D. Cut people some slack!

1. Ephesians 4:2 (NAS)

E. Treat others the way you want to be treated.

1. Matthew 7:12a (NAS)

2. The only way we can treat others the way we want to be treated is by asking for God's help!

IV. Conclusion