

The background is a dark blue gradient. In the center is a dark, textured sphere. From this sphere, a multitude of thin, glowing lines radiate outwards. On the left, these lines are primarily cyan and blue, swirling and flowing. On the right, they transition to magenta and pink, also swirling. The overall effect is one of dynamic energy and light.

CADENCE

LIVING IN STEP WITH THE SPIRIT OF GOD



Life Group Questions

HEAD

- ✚ As we await the fulfillment of the Lord's promises, let us endure postponements, persecutions, and provocations with profound patience.



HEART

- ✚ How does understanding God's 'long nose' (patience) **modify** your perspective on His character and our relationship with Him?
- ✚ How can we exhibit patience in a culture that often **values** immediate gratification, quick results, and "get back" (retaliation)?



HANDS

- ✚ This week, when you feel impatient, **pause** and **pray** for God's patience to fill you.
- ✚ **Identify** one relationship where you need to extend more patience. **Make a concrete plan** to show more grace in that relationship.
- ✚ **Reflect** daily on God's patience towards you. **Keep a gratitude journal noting** instances of God's patience in your life.
- ✚ **Practice** "long nose" responses to frustrating situations. When provoked, **take** a deep breath and **count** to ten before responding.
- ✚ **Study** more about God's patience in Scripture. **Choose** one passage mentioned in the sermon to **meditate** on this week.





Five Day Devotional

Day 1: God's Patience and Long-Suffering Reading:

Exodus 34:6-7; Psalm 86:15; 2 Peter 3:8-9

- ✱ Devotional: God's patience is a profound expression of His love for us. The Old Testament describes God as "slow to anger" or having a "long nose," illustrating His incredible forbearance with human failings. As we reflect on God's patience, consider how it impacts your relationship with Him. How has God been patient with you in your life? In what areas do you need to extend that same patience to others? Remember, God's patience is not infinite - it's meant to lead us to repentance and transformation. Today, thank God for His patience and ask for the strength to emulate it in your relationships.



Day 2: The Challenge of Forgiveness Reading: Matthew 18:21-35; Colossians 3:12-13

- ✚ Devotional: Jesus' parable of the unforgiving servant challenges us to examine our hearts. We've been forgiven an immeasurable debt by God, yet how often do we struggle to forgive others for much smaller offenses? Reflect on areas where you might be harboring unforgiveness. What's holding you back from extending the same grace you've received? Remember, forgiveness is not about excusing wrongdoing, but about freeing yourself from bitterness and reflecting God's character. Today, ask God to soften your heart and give you the courage to forgive as you've been forgiven.



Day 3: Enduring in Faith Reading: Hebrews 11:1-16; James 1:2-4

- ✚ Devotional: The faith journey often requires patient endurance. Abraham, held up as an example of faith, waited years for God's promises to be fulfilled. In our instant-gratification culture, waiting can be excruciating. Yet it's often in these waiting periods that God does His deepest work in us. What promises are you waiting on God for? How might God be using this time of waiting to shape your character? Today, ask God for the strength to endure faithfully, trusting in His perfect timing and purposes.



Day 4: Christ's Example in Suffering Reading:

Luke 23:32-43; 1 Peter 2:21-25

- ✚ Devotional: Jesus' response to His accusers and tormentors on the cross sets an otherworldly example of patience and love in the face of injustice. Even in His deepest agony, He extended forgiveness and grace. This challenges us to examine our responses when we face mistreatment or persecution. How can we cultivate a Christ-like attitude in the face of suffering? Today, meditate on Christ's example and ask the Holy Spirit to empower you to respond with grace and patience when you face opposition or injustice.



Day 5: Living in Light of Eternity Reading: Revelation 20:11-15; 2 Corinthians 5:9-10

- ✚ Devotional: The reality of final judgment reminds us that our lives have eternal significance. Every choice, every action, every word matters in light of eternity. This sobering truth should motivate us to live with purpose and intentionality. How might your daily decisions change if you constantly kept eternity in view? At the same time, for believers, this judgment is not one of condemnation but of reward. How does this inspire you to live faithfully? Today, ask God to help you live with an eternal perspective, making choices that will stand the test of His judgment and bring glory to His name.

