



Little Foxes | Session 5: Impatience

Pastor Dale Campbell

I. Series Review

A. Song of Solomon 2:15 NKJV

Catch us the foxes, The little foxes that spoil the vines, For our vines *have* tender grapes

Literal Standard Version

Seize for us the foxes, Little foxes – DESTROYERS of vineyards, even our sweet-smelling vineyards.

GNT

Catch the foxes, the little foxes, **before** they ruin our vineyard in bloom

1. **Little foxes** – little things have the potential to destroy or hinder your harvest.
2. **Spoil** – to destroy – to corrupt – to ruin – or to withhold
3. **Previous sessions**
 - a. **Little fox of wrong thinking**
 - b. **Little fox of condemnation**
 - c. **Little fox of negative emotions**
 - d. **Little fox of strife**

II. The little fox of negative impatience



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A. Impatience Defined

1. The feeling of wanting something to happen as soon as possible.
2. Unable to wait patiently
3. Easily irritated at delay
4. Restlessly eager for something.
5. *Patience is not being willing to wait for something or someone*

B. Patience definition

1. The capacity to accept or tolerate delay

C. Patience quotes

1. One moment of patience may ward off a disaster. One moment of impatience may ruin a whole life
2. The two most powerful warriors are patience and time
3. Patience is not simply the ability to wait, it's how we behave while we're waiting. – Joyce Meyer
4. The greatest power is often simple patience – E. Joseph Cossman

D. Patience in the Scriptures

1. Luke 8:15 NKJV

But the ones *that* fell on the good ground are those who, having



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heard the word with a noble and good heart, keep *it* and bear fruit with patience.

NLT

And the seeds that fell on the good soil represent honest, good-hearted people who hear God's word, cling to it, and patiently produce a huge harvest

- a. Any harvest will require patience.
- b. Seldom does the harvest of faith come instantaneously.
 - i. Abraham and Sarah patiently waited on Isaac
 - ii. David did not assume the throne the day Samuel anointed him.
 - iii. Jesus did not finish His mission overnight. He spent many years on earth prior to His death on the cross.
 - iv. The children of Israel did not arrive in the promised land the day after they left Egypt.
- c. Faith is a journey that requires PATIENCE – if we are to obtain the desired harvest. *Impatience will become a little fox!*

2. James 1:2-4 NKJV

²My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, ³knowing that the testing of your faith produces ^[a]patience. ⁴But let patience have *its* perfect work, that you may be ^[b]perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

- a. Patience is endurance.



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- b. Patience is the ability to endure – and stay the course
- c. Patience is a mark of maturity

3. Heb 6:11-15 NKJV

¹¹ And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope until the end, ¹² that you do not become ^[a]sluggish, but imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

¹³ For when God made a promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself, ¹⁴ saying, “Surely blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply you.” ¹⁵ And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise.

- a. Imitate – follow as an example – those who through FAITH and PAITENCE inherit the promises.
- b. Abraham – only obtained the promise of Isaac after he had PATIENTNLY ENTURED.
- c. Impatience will cause you to lose your harvest.
*Impatience produced Ishmael for Abraham and Sarah -
Ishmael is a work of the flesh – not a work of faith!
Works of the flesh may delay or cost you your harvest of faith.*

4. James 5:7-8 NKJV

⁷ Therefore **be patient**, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. See *how* the farmer **waits** for the precious fruit of the earth, **waiting patiently** for it until it receives the early and latter rain. ⁸ **You also be patient.** Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord ^[f]is at hand.

- a. The key to patience is an established heart.



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- b. Established – to make stable – place firmly – to strengthen – to render constant. *To be turned resolutely in a certain direction.* – SET

5. Mark 4:26-29 NKJV

²⁶ And He said, “The kingdom of God is as if a man should [a]scatter seed on the ground, ²⁷ and should sleep by night and rise by day, and the seed should sprout and grow, he himself does not know how. ²⁸ For the earth yields crops by itself: first the blade, then the head, after that the full grain in the head. ²⁹ But when the grain ripens, immediately he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come.

E. The price of impatience

1. The children of Israel got into trouble with the golden calf because they were impatient regarding Moses’ return from the mountain
2. King Saul took it upon himself to offer sacrifices that he was not qualified to offer because he was impatient while waiting upon Samson to come.
3. Esau sold his birthright due because he wasn’t patient enough to prepare his own food.
4. Impatience may have been a factor in Judas’ betrayal of Jesus. He did not want to wait for God’s timing for Jesus to reign as King – The motive of Judas’ actions could have been to force Jesus into action.

Pastor’s Note: Everything relating to our journey of faith will require patience. Whenever we give up to impatience – we are hindering, limiting, or destroying are harvest.