

- This is one of my favorite scenes in the OT ... Can you imagine being Moses, or being present on the mountain, as what happens unfolds before you? ... Notice how God's goodness is interwoven with His glory, and they cannot be separated ... To see His goodness is to see His glory, and to see His glory is to see His goodness ... Notice how God's goodness and glory are revealed – vs6-7 ... His mercy and grace; His patience, kindness, faithfulness; His righteousness and justice ... Though He holds the guilty accountable, He extends forgiveness and loving-kindness to all who come to Him
  - I appreciate what Dane Ortlund brings out in his book, *Gentle and Lowly*, about this particular passage ... You and I would be wrong to assume that God's anger is easily set-off by the dumb things that we do on a daily basis, and that His mercy and grace are things that we have to force out of Him ... When in reality, the opposite is true – God's grace and mercy is easily set-off, which causes Him to be slow to anger (Rom2:4)
  - Ortlund makes another great point by contrasting God's love and anger with our own ... God's anger needs to be provoked, not His love ... Whereas, our love needs to be provoked, not our anger ... Thus, the Holy Spirit, resides in us, with the fullness of Jesus, to live out through us the life and character of Jesus ... As I have said before, the Spirit's main job is conforming us into the likeness of Jesus (Ro8:29), thus we look like Jesus and act like Jesus, as the Spirit continually fills us, leads us and empowers us to put off who we were and to put on who we are ... Col3:9-10 ... Eph4:22-24 (see Titus 3:4-7, Galatians 5:25)
- The fullness of Jesus lives in us by the Spirit, in order that the life of Jesus would be lived through us for the benefit of others and God's glory ... Therefore, the Fruit of the Spirit is not merely for us but to glorify God and serve others ... Remember, discipleship is about relationships – UP, IN, OUT
- What is patience: in OT/NT, it speaks of being long-suffering, delaying one's anger – 2Pet3:9 (see Psalm 103:8-12)
- What is kindness: in OT/NT, it speaks of God's relationship with people, particularly those who belong to Him ... He moves and acts in kindness towards us for our good and well-being – Rom2:4 (God's steadfast love, faithful love ... God sets His affection upon us long before we ever set our affection on Him) ... (see Psalm 57:2-3, Jeremiah 31:3, Ephesians 2:4-7)
- How is our patience tested: stressful situations, hardship, sickness, unanswered prayer, relationships ... How is our patience grown – is it not through the same things ... Jam1:2-4 – endurance = patiently waiting ... Allowing God to work in you, in the situation, and allowing God to enable you to press through ... So, it is good and needed that we pray for patience ... What does it mean to wait on the Lord ... Piper – be praying, be still, be expectant
  - So often, prayer is a last resort, when in fact it should be our first go-to ... There are times when prayers go unanswered, and because of this, we determine prayer is ineffective ... This should not be our conclusion ... There are different reasons why prayer goes unanswered: we're asking the wrong things and God has something better; God hasn't said no, but wait; God is waiting on other pieces to fall into place; and maybe He is answering your prayer, you just can't see it yet or maybe it's in a way you're not expecting
  - Sometimes we pray for something and then go about fulfilling what we want and how we want it, all the while, God wants you to wait, to be still ... Being still is realizing that everything is not dependent on you ... Being still is about relaxing and trusting God ... We do so expectantly ... And this, at times, means we go about our day, trusting that God has heard us, and will answer us in His time and in His way
- How is patience shown to others ... The patience shown to us by God, is the patience we are to show to others ... Jesus teaches this in the parable of the unmerciful servant (Matt18:21-34)

- We should be patient with others, not because they deserve it, but because God has been patient with us, especially when we did not deserve it ... Being patient with others is not easy, and it's not meant to be ... It's an act of denying yourself – what you want, what you expect, for the benefit of another ... Sometimes, a person needs to be shown what to do, and sure it's OK to give reasonable expectations, but before we lose our patience with them, maybe we need to ask ourselves – why am I being impatient; is it them or is it me ... (see [Proverbs 17:27-28](#), [James 1:19-20](#)) ... “I wasn't born with patience,” and it's true, we're not; but every believer has been reborn with patience
- [Col3:12-17](#) – put on ... Notice how Paul words the instruction – everything flows from who you are in Christ ... It's the life of Jesus in you and through you
- How is kindness influenced – isn't it mainly by how we've been raised, and how we've been treated ... When our child mistreats another kid, what do we say, “That's not how I raised you” ... And what may they say sometimes in response, “Well, they hit me first” ... Treat others as they treat you ... Do to others what they do to you ... Isn't this the golden rule that our culture lives by, that we live by ... What does Jesus say: [Luk6:27-28](#), [31](#), [36](#) ... What's the kindness of Jesus influenced by – the Spirit living within Him; character of the Father ... So, Jesus prayed for those who persecuted Him – “Father, forgive them” ... Jesus loved His enemies – healed soldiers' ear that Peter cut off
  - Does patience influence your kindness ... Is kindness experienced in your patience ... We can be kind with unkind intentions ... Our outward action should match our inward motivation ... Kindness benefits the other person, regardless of who they are and how they respond
- How is kindness shown to others
  - Kindness is shown through our words, actions, motivations; how we pray for others; how we speak about others – publicly and privately ... People have become so critical of others, divisive and angry – and these are Christians, those who profess to follow Jesus ... The Church tends to lash out at the sins of the culture, while ignoring the giant log in our own eye ... According to Paul, aren't we supposed to keep ourselves in order, and allow God to deal with those outside of the Church ... Listen, non-Christians are supposed to act like non-Christians, just like Christians are supposed to act like Christians ... Kindness – such that seeks to meet the needs of others, should be a mark of identification upon all Christians ... We who've been shown extradentary kindness, should therefore show extradentary kindness
- Kindness and patience flows from love, which is the fruit that the Holy Spirit produces within us and through us