

SERMON SERIES: THE DIFFERENCE HE MAKES

SPEAKER: SCOTT BECKENHAUER

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Sermon title:

“The Difference He Makes: PATIENCE”

Introduction

We have been in a series these past few weeks called The Difference He Makes. In this series, we've been focusing on how Jesus makes a difference in our lives by talking about the fruits of the Spirit. Last week we talked about how a fruitful life, which includes peace, happens when we remain in Christ. This week we are shifting our focus to how Jesus was patient in perseverance.

- What is your biggest pet peeve? Do you have any?
- How do you typically respond when someone does your pet peeve?

Seek the Word

Read Romans 5:3-4

- What might verse 3 mean when it says to “glory in our sufferings?”
- How does suffering produce perseverance?
- Why does the author Paul emphasize that perseverance can lead to hope?
 - Why is hope important?

Read 2 Peter 3:9

- What does this passage tell us about God's character?
- How does this passage help us understand God's timing?

Go Deeper

Do a word study on the words “perseverance” or “character” as found in Romans 5:3-4. Look at the original meaning of the word, where else it is used in Scripture, and how it is used in our passage. Online resources like the Blue Letter Bible website or the free Logos app may be helpful.

Talk About It

- What sort of things make it hard for us to be patient with God, ourselves, and other people?
- Has there been a time that you were shown undeserved patience? How did you react?
- How can you shift from the perspective of your own timetable to God's timetable?
- What is one specific way you can practice Christ-like patience this week? What are the steps you will take to do so?

Wrap Up

Reminder: Christ-like patience comes through perseverance.

Challenge: Choose one challenging situation you know you will be in this upcoming week. Create a list of action steps to take that will help you practice Christ-like patience. After the situation, pray that God will help you persevere.