

## “PATIENCE” Fixer Upper #4

*“It is better to be patient than powerful. It is better to win control over yourself than over whole cities.”*  
Proverbs 16:32 (TEV)

### I. WHY BE PATIENT?

#### 1. BECAUSE GOD COMMANDS IT

*“Be patient with everyone”*

1 Thessalonians 5:14

#### 2. BECAUSE GOD IS PATIENT WITH YOU

*“The Lord is not slow in doing what he promised—the way some people understand slowness. But **God is being patient with you**. He does not want anyone to be lost, but he wants all people to change their hearts and lives.”*

2 Peter 3:9 (NCV)

### II. HOW GOD TESTS OUR PATIENCE

- INTERRUPTIONS
- INCONVENIENCES
- IRRITATIONS
- INACTIVITY

### III. HOW TO INCREASE YOUR PATIENCE

#### 1. LEARN TO LOOK WITH INSIGHT

*“A man’s **wisdom** gives him patience; it is to his glory to overlook and offense.”*  
Proverbs 19:11 (NIV)

*“A patient man has **great understanding**, but a quick tempered man displays folly.”*  
Proverbs 14:29 (NIV)

#### 2. LEARN TO LAUGH AT LIFE

*“A relaxed attitude lengthens a man’s life.”*

Proverbs 14:30 (LB)

*“The one who rules in heaven laughs”*

Psalms 2:4 (NLT)

#### 3. LEARN TO LOVE WITH TIME

*“Love is patient”*

1 Corinthians 13:4

*“Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other’s faults **because of your love**.”*  
Ephesians 4:2 (NLT)

#### 4. LEARN TO LEAN ON GOD

*“God will strengthen you **with his own great power** so that you will not give up when troubles come, but **you will be patient**.”*  
Colossians 1:11 (NCV)

*“But when the Holy Spirit controls our lives, he will produce this kind of fruit in us: love, joy peace, **patience**, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.*  
Galatians 5:22-23 (NLT)