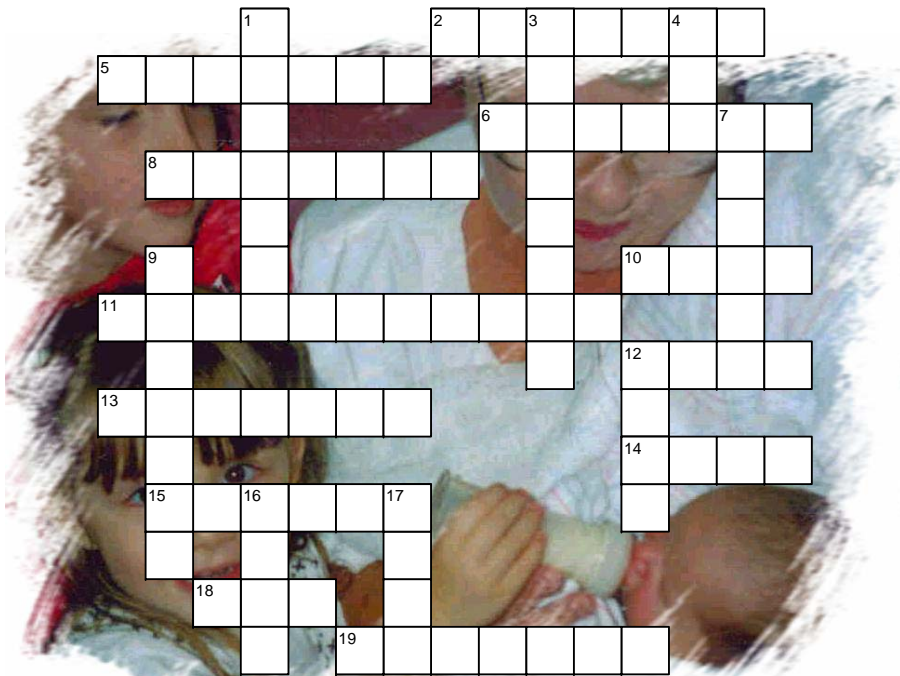


Crossword Puzzle

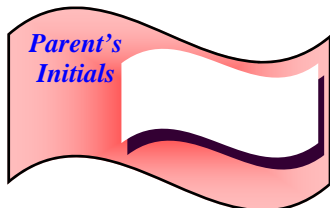


Across

Down

2. Patience is the ability to wait for something we do not _____.
5. _____ and Sarah patiently waited for God to fulfill His promise to them.
6. While the farmer waits for his crop to grow he must nurture and _____ it.
8. Patience is the _____ to wait.
10. _____ had patience for 120 years.
11. Farmers work while they wait by weeding _____ and spraying for insects.
12. Patience is the ability to wait without anxiety for something you _____ now.
13. Farmers work while they wait by _____ fertilizing and spraying for insects.
14. The farmer waits, but not in an _____ way.
15. Farmers work while they wait by weeding _____ fertilizing and spraying for _____.

1. This week's character trait.
3. Farmers work while they wait by weeding _____ fertilizing and _____ for insects.
4. Patience is the ability to wait for the things _____ we don't yet _____ or possess.
7. Israel had to wait for 40 years to enter the _____ land of _____.
9. Patience is necessary to gain the _____ of the things we try to do.
12. Patience is the ability to _____.
16. For a person to be patient does not _____.



Character

- Lesson Ten -

Patient — (Able to Wait)

I. Overview.

Patience is necessary to gain the benefit of the things we try to do. Patience is the ability to wait without anxiety for something you want now. It is the ability to wait for the things we expect, but we don't yet see or possess. It takes time for some things to be accomplished.

A patient person is not anxious while he waits for the things he desires. Neither is he idle or lazy. A patient person is diligently doing today what can be done today, and calmly waiting for what will come later.



The farmer who planted these soybean seedlings will have to patiently for them to grow and bear fruit.

Those whom God has been able to use to cooperate with Him to fulfill His purpose on the earth have all been people of faith, believing in His word and promises. They have also been people of patience, waiting for Him to fulfill what He has spoken.

II. Memory Verse.

“That you may not be sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith and longsuffering are inheriting the promises”

(Heb. 6:12)

III. Lesson.

Developing our Character Takes Time

In order to develop the eight items of character that we have studied thus far (being genuine, exact, strict, diligent, broad, fine, stable and deep), we must have patience. Patience is the ability to calmly wait for something we want now. Patience takes into account the importance of one great factor — time. For a person to be patient does not imply that he is passive, lazy or slow. A patient person, on the contrary, is a person who has a goal before him and is working steadfastly toward that goal. However, he realizes that anxiety, haste, or excessive pressure will not help him reach his goal, for the time factor must be taken into account. Not all things are just a matter of work and effort, many things take time in order to achieve the desired outcome.

The Patience of a Farmer

A good example of being patient is seen in a farmer. A farmer plows the soil, plants and waters the seed, and then he waits. He patiently waits while time does its work. However, he does not wait in an idle way. He works diligently, weeding, fertilizing, spraying for insects etc. He has much to do to nurture and protect his crop. But for the growth and maturity of the crop, a certain amount of time is needed. For the farmer, waiting is normal.

It's Hard to Wait

One of the hardest lessons for a young person to learn is patience. A baby is the most impatient person. The moment that a baby



Little babies have not yet learned to wait. It is a difficult lesson to learn. As soon as they are hungry, or lonely, or uncomfortable, they just start to cry.

feels hungry, he screams. To the baby, who has only lived a few days, to wait five minutes seems like a long time. However, to a hundred year-old man, even five hours is not very long; he has lived through hundreds of thousands of hours.

Those who have been useful to God have all been patient people. Noah labored for 120 years to build the ark, knowing that God had told him that a flood was coming. Abraham and Sarah waited 25 years to have the son that God had promised them. Even the children of Israel had to wait for 40 years to enter the good land of Canaan. In order for us to be useful to God, we need to develop the ability to be patient.

--- Questions for Discussion ---

1. What is needed to develop the 8 character traits that we have discussed thus far?

2. Who is a good example of being patient? Why?

3. Why is an older person more able to be patient?

4. Give some examples of patient persons in the Bible?

5. List some things you have had to wait for?

