

Patience



But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

romans 8:25 (NRSV)

I have fond memories of my mother singing to me “have patience, have patience, don’t be in such a hurry”. Though it is an iconic song of my childhood, I find myself reaching for its lyrics more often than not. As a child I felt that having patience was a difficult fruit of the spirit to achieve. Nowadays I recognize patience as a tool for growth and success. Paul describes the body of Christ as a people who wait with patience for a hope we do not see with our eyes. We might not always feel the longing as intensely, or always as patiently. Still we hope in the best possible reality anyone can imagine, with patience. This is our human nature. We hope and we pray that the best is yet to come and then we wait. With this mindset we should hope to see our community, our nation, our world become a unified body. We recognize the troubles of our world, and we pray that through Jesus Christ it is restored. Being patient in that allows growth, more spaces for conversation, and a grander awareness of what love truly is.

action

Heavenly Father we live in a culture that wants everything and wants it yesterday. Help us to break free from this narrative and step into the process of growing with each other, being patient with each other’s growth and way of life. Lord, teach us to be still in the midst of storms for your timing is always perfect, never too early and never too late.

I challenge you to pick a day where you intentionally unplug from things that may distract you and sit quietly for ten minutes, reflecting on your needs for growth and what that may look like for you in this season.

