



Life of Love Week 1 – Patient Discussion & Reflection Guide

Questions and Prompts

- **What stood out to you from Sunday's service?** How did you sense God at work in you through the songs, the story video, the message, and being together with others as part of the church? (The message's main points and scripture are listed below if it helps you think back.)
- **“The truest identifying mark of a Christian is the way they love.”** Who comes to mind when you hear this?
- Print or **write out James 1:19** and put it somewhere you'll see often this week.
- Where or with whom do you need to be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to be angry? **How can you practice being quicker to listen and slower to speak this week?**
- **“Calm is the new strong.”** Who comes to mind when you hear this?
- “God prefers deep transformation to superficial. He's patiently transforming you into a person of Love, and that takes time.” What are you waiting for right now? How might God be at work in ways that take time?
- How has God been patient with you?
- **Is there anything else from the message you want to explore more deeply this week?**

We hope you'll use this guide to take the teaching from Sunday's service and reflect on it with a few friends or with a group. If you have questions or want to talk more about how to take your next spiritual step, contact us at info@wschurch.org.

Message Main Points & Scripture

- John 13:34-35 - "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."
- **The truest identifying mark of a Christian is the way they love.**
- 1 John 4:8, 16 - God is love.
- 1 Corinthians 13:1-8 - If I speak in the language of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.
Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance. Love never fails.
- 1 Corinthians 13:4 - Love is patient...
- **Patience = "Distant wrath"**
- **Patient = "Slow to anger."**
- James 1:19 - You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry.
- Exodus 34:6-7 - The LORD, the LORD the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, maintaining love to thousands and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin...
- **"How can I be slower to anger?"**
- James 1:19 - ...be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry.
- **Anger feels good**
- **Anger feels powerful.**
- **Anger offers the illusion of size and strength and power.**
- **Calm is the new strong.**
- Luke 23:34 - "Father, forgive them, for they don't know what they're doing."
- **Very few things need to happen "right now."**
- **You're playing the long game.**
- **God prefers deep transformation**
- 2 Peter 3:9 - The Lord isn't really being slow about his promise, as some people think. No, he is being patient for your sake. He does not want anyone to be destroyed, but wants everyone to repent.