

Leading the Heart Series

The Patient Heart

02/07/10

Introduction:

1. Chris Perry, great Gospel preacher, was playing basketball when his heart went into fibrillation. The Civic center had just purchased an AED and it saved his life.

Text:

Ephesians 4:2-3

Thesis:

Leading the heart after God includes learning humbleness, gentleness and patience that we can achieve the unity that pleases Him.

Discussion:

I) Humbleness

a) Matthew 18:4

1) Trust

(i) Gonna Tell My Dad on you (Psalms 5:11).

(ii) My Dad is cool. (Psalms 25:1-3)

(iii) Psalms 91:4

2) Confidence

(i) 1 John 5:14

(ii) The trusting heart of the child knows he is heard.

3) Willingness to Please

(i) John 8:29

(ii) Hebrews 11:6

b) Jesus, the very Son of God humbled Himself to the Father's plan (Philippians 2:5-11)

c) Jesus, humbled Himself to earthly parents (Luke 2:44-52).

d) If I am going to LEAD MY HEART TO PATIENCE, I must DECIDE TO BE HUMBLE

II) Gentleness

a) Galatians 5:22-23

1) All of these attributes are inter-twined.

2) Think of an opportunity that God opened up for you this week to demonstrate gentleness.

3) Did you pass the test? If so, Great! If not, God will give you another opportunity, just be on watch for it.

b) 1 Thessalonians 2:7

(i) Can we consider that everyone around us deserves to be treated with the gentleness of a mother toward a child.

(ii) Caring for others combines humbleness with gentleness.

c) James 3:17

1) The Wisdom of God is gentleness.

2) Everyone of us are equal in the Lord's sight to receive His gifts.

d) If I am going to LEAD MY HEART TO PATIENCE, I must DECIDE TO BE GENTLE

III) Patience

a) Romans 5:1-6

1) Patience is an indicator of peace, experience and hope.

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- 2) Patience takes advantage of opportunities to demonstrate itself.
- 3) God shows us the way (2 Peter 3:9).
- b) 2 Thessalonians 1:4
 - 1) God is glorified in our demonstration of patience.
 - 2) Others learn from our examples of patience.
- c) James 1:2-4
 - 1) We need not be afraid when opportunities to demonstrate patience appear.
 - 2) We must be careful about asking for patience. We may get more opportunities than we dare handle.
 - 3) We must pray for wisdom to make better decisions when opportunities for patient demonstrations appear.

IV) Decide to Make An Effort To Be Patient.

- a) What opportunities did God give me to demonstrate patience this week?
- b) How did I respond when the opportunity presented itself?
- c) What opportunities may God give me this week to demonstrate patience?
- d) How will I respond to those opportunities?
 - 1) True HUMBLENESS that seeks the best for another.
 - 2) True GENTLENESS that handles communication and action as if it were expensive china plates.