

The Patience and Kindness of Love

March 2-3, 2017

- 1. Discuss the different ways patience is encouraged in the following verses: Proverbs 14:29; Proverbs 15:18; Proverbs 19:11; Proverbs 16:32
- 2. Discuss the meaning of being "like-minded" in Romans 15:5. That is, what attitude does God want us to have toward one another?
- 3. What does Paul say the church at Corinth should have been characterized by in 1 Corinthians 13:4-7?
 - Are these qualities evident in our churches today?
 - What does being "the elect" of God: have to do with our responsibility to be kind? (Colossians 3:12)
 - Should there be a difference in the way Christians treat others as opposed to non-Christians? Is there a difference?
 - How patient was God with humanity in the days of Noah? (Genesis 6:3) How patient has He been with us?
 - The Greek verb *makrothnumeo* ("being patient") is a combination of which two words? What can we learn about patience from this definition?
 - How has Christianity's view on patience differed from those of other cultures in history?
 Is this applicable to our world today in any way?
- 4. Read and discuss the following Scriptures. What does each reveal about what it means to exercise longsuffering toward one another?
 - Colossians 3:12
 - Ephesians 4:2
 - Ephesians 4:32
 - Romans 12:17
- 5. What attribute of God leads us to repentance? (Romans 2:4) By which action did God demonstrate His kindness toward us?
 - Are we deserving of God's kindness? (Titus 3:4-6) What does this tell us about the love of God?
 - What specific examples of kindness does Jesus provide in Luke 6:27-36?
 - Discuss ways that you could demonstrate Christ's kindness in your workspace, neighborhood, or community.

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