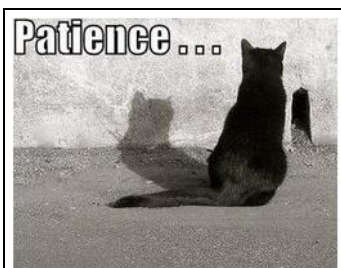


## A Marriage Minute™

*A simple help to make your marriage just a little better this week.*



### “LOVE IS PATIENT”

--1 Corinthians 13:4

*(For the next few weeks we'll be looking at 1 Corinthians 13:4-7, that portion of Scripture commonly known as the Love Chapter)*

Sometimes the King James' version says it best. It translates patience as "long suffering." And what does long-suffering mean? Suffering long! That's it! "But I've suffered long enough!" you say. Oh, have you? Look at the palms of your hands. See any nail scars there yet? Then you haven't suffered as much as Christ has suffered for you. Put another way; you haven't been as patient with others as Christ has been with you. He is patient with us, and continues to accept us and love us for who we are, not what we are. He continues to forgive us even while we're in the act of sin as long as our hearts are really turned toward him, and we truly desire to do his will. Husbands and wives are both struggling to change daily. The key is to be patient with one another as we are both struggling. Let's be encouraging for whatever progress we see, and not become impatient because we're not seeing more. It will come. Don't push it. Enjoy the ride. Paul tells us we need two things to see all that God has reserved for us: **faith and patience**. (Hebrews 6:12). When we blow it, it's usually because we don't have the faith or patience to persevere. We're just not willing to suffer long enough to see the breakthrough. Be patient with one another, forgiving one another, just as God, in Christ Jesus forgave you.

Love is patient. To the extent that we are patient we are loving. To the extent that we are not, we are not loving. That's the truth!

**Question for dialogue:** "How have we been impatient with one another? How does it affect our relationship and the atmosphere in our home?"

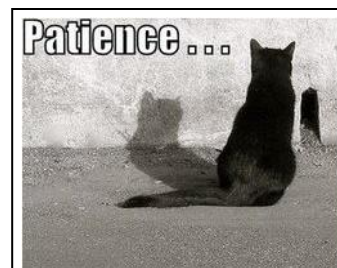
**Prayer for both of us:** "Lord, help us to remember how you are long-suffering-with us, so that we may have patience for one another, and through faith and patience realize the promises you have made us.

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*This MARRIAGE MINUTE™ is brought to you by Marriage & Family Savers Institute.  
Visit them at [www.marriageandfamily.org](http://www.marriageandfamily.org)*

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