

Lasting Results Session 2 Part 9

Thread of Patience! Believable! Maturity!

This session emphasizes three crucial aspects of spiritual growth for Christians: **patience, believability, and maturity**. Below are the main takeaways from this teaching:

Target #1: Be Patient!

- **Patience is a character quality of Jesus.**
Without it, faith falters quickly. True patience requires consistent attention and development.
 - **Reflection:**
Are we actively working on our character development? Without the character of Jesus, life lacks a solid foundation.
 - **Scriptural Insight on Patience:**
 - *1 Thessalonians 5:14*: Patience requires maintaining composure with everyone.
 - *Colossians 3:12-14*: Patience is part of the spiritual attire of God's chosen ones.
 - *Ephesians 4:1-3*: Patience fosters unity and peace.
 - *2 Timothy 2:23-25*: Patience is necessary for teaching and correction.
 - *Romans 5:3-5*: Tribulations develop patience, which leads to hope.
 - *James 1:2-4*: Patience, when perfected, makes us complete and lacking nothing.
 - **Action Step:**
Develop practical steps to grow in patience, recognizing it as a key to spiritual endurance and character refinement.
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Target #2: Be Believable!

- **Believability stems from true character**, evidenced by the fruit of one's life (Matthew 12:33; 7:18-20). A Christ-like life convinces others of the truth of the Gospel.
- **Observation:**
If Christians resemble non-Christians in behavior, they lose credibility. Genuine growth in grace and knowledge (2 Peter 3:18) should reflect in character.
- **Key Insight:**
Non-Christians often doubt Christianity because they don't see its transformative power in Christians' lives.
- **Action Step:**
Examine personal growth in Christ's character. Are we demonstrating His qualities, so others see Him in us?

Target #3: Be Mature!

- **Maturity prevents spiritual casualties.**
Spiritually immature believers are not ready for the demands of ministry or spiritual warfare. Preparation and growth are essential.
 - **Who is a baby in Christ?**
According to Hebrews 5:11-14 and 1 Corinthians 3:1-4:
 - Dull of hearing (spiritually inattentive).
 - Requires milk instead of solid food (unable to handle deeper truths).
 - Unskilled in God's Word.
 - Unable to distinguish good from evil.
 - Fleshly (ruled by worldly desires).
 - Prone to jealousy and strife.
 - Behaving like ordinary, unchanged individuals.
 - **Contrast with Maturity:**
Mature believers exhibit wisdom (1 Corinthians 2:6), moral discernment, and spiritual strength.
 - **Reflection Questions:**
 - Can a baby Christian effectively guide others?
 - Would we assign adult responsibilities or warfare tasks to someone spiritually immature?
 - **Action Step:**
Strive for spiritual growth by transitioning from milk to solid food—deepening understanding and application of God's Word.
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Final Thought:

Each target—**patience**, **believability**, and **maturity**—is interconnected. Developing patience strengthens character; believable character builds credibility; maturity ensures spiritual readiness. Together, these qualities equip believers to represent Christ effectively and withstand the challenges of faith.

How are you actively working toward these goals in your spiritual journey?

[Click here.](#) Main resource.

