



PASSION FOR TRUTH

WHERE NEW LIFE BEGINS

The Power of Patience - Jim Staley 2022

Have you ever wished you had more patience? Have you ever been in a situation where you were going too fast or made an assumption about something and then acted in such a way that you only regretted afterwards? If so, then follow me for the next few minutes as I show you an obscure Hebrew word in the Old Testament that gives us *incredible* new insights into not only what this word really means but how we can truly apply it for today.

Hello, everyone, I'm Jim Staley, Passion for Truth Ministries. Make sure that you subscribe to our YouTube channel, that you like this video, and that you make sure your notifications are on. One of the greatest things that you can do for our ministry is to like and subscribe. When you do that, YouTube automatically lifts our video up in the recommended video list for other people. It's the best way to spread this message.

Alright, today we are going to talk about patience. This is a really amazing topic, if you ask me, because it hits almost all of us right between the eyes. I know for me, this is hands down one of my most difficult attributes to master, and I've been struggling with patience pretty much my entire life. So if you struggle with patience like I do, then maybe this message is for you and for me.

Let's begin by going through Galatians 5, verse 22, and we'll start off with the fruit of the Spirit. Ladies and gentlemen, this is where it all begins. **"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Against such there is no law."** In other words, the law is not against the fruit of the Spirit. It's against those that sin. **"Those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another."** Right here in Galatians chapter 5, we not only have the list of the fruit of the Spirit, but not so talked about is what comes after that, telling us that to live in the Spirit is to *not become conceited, don't provoke one another, or envy one another*. This is telling us that most of the problems that we have in our lives relate to the fact that we're conceited, that we have pride, that we envy one another, we're jealous. A lot of times we try to tear down people just because we're envious or jealous of who they are or the status they have or *what* they have. So I'm going to show you, hold on to your seats because near the end of this

teaching, I'm going to talk about an obscure Hebrew word that relates to patience and unpack some of the most amazing details and descriptions about this word and how it can better serve us, and teach us how to be patient people. Which is quite frankly, it is the image of Messiah, is patience. *Love is patient*, the Bible says, and that's where we're going to go next.

The *main* Hebrew word for patience is **savlanut**. Its root literally means **to bear or to suffer**. Now, this is not the main Hebrew word that we're going to focus on, but this is the modern Hebrew word, *savlanut*, is the modern Hebrew word for patience. And it means to bear, it means to suffer. Don't you ever feel like in the moment of traffic or when someone's aggravating you, and are you getting in an argument with your spouse that you flat out are *suffering*? That's exactly what patience is *designed* to do. It's **to force your will**, it's **to force your mind**, it's **to force your emotions to put it on pause**. It's very easy to express your feelings when you're frustrated. It's *easy* to complain, but it takes **work** and it takes **strength** to actually hold back and to do the wise thing and to be *silent* for a moment and allow the Holy Spirit to just let the situation play out. We're going to talk more about that near the end, but let's continue.

This is one of my favorite verses on this subject, *hands down*. Matter of fact, when I read this about two years ago, I felt like I read it for the very first time. And I said, man, I've never read this verse in the New Testament before. Would you turn with me to Luke chapter 22, excuse me, Luke 21:19. Read along with me. It says this, "**By your patience, possess your souls.**" Listen, by your patience, you will possess your soul. What is your soul? Your soul is **your mind, your will, and your emotions**. It's your personality. It's who you are. Your spirit goes back to God from which it came when you die, but your *soul* goes into the ground *waiting* with your flesh for judgment day, for the Messiah to come. I should say for the Messiah to come and have the resurrection of the just. *That* is when you'll be given a new body. You will still have your mind, will, and emotions, your personality, and it will reunite with the Ruach, the spirit that gives you life. It's an amazing topic to cover on another day of what happens after death. But in the meantime, as it relates to this teaching, the only way to *truly* have control over your mind, will, and emotions, the Bible says, *is through patience*. **Patience is what causes you to have full control over your mind, will, and emotions**. And I'm going to say this, brothers and sisters in Messiah, if we don't have control over our mind, will, and emotions, then who does? There's only two entities. It's either Yahweh or it's the enemy, Satan himself and his minions. And so if we want the Father to be, we want to be in alignment with His mind, will, and emotions, then we need to **exercise patience**. *It is* the modus operandi that will allow us to be in full communion with the Father and with people around us.

There's a million other attributes that are out there, but the writer in Luke says patience is the one. I don't know about you, but when we listed off the fruits of the spirit, love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control, I will bet you a dollar that your top two that you struggle with will be like everybody else, it's patience and self-control, especially if you're a guy. And so I want to commend you for admitting that you struggle with patience and for watching this video that I believe will encourage you. And at the end of this

video, I'm going to give you four steps that I call D.A.R.E. And it's an acronym that's going to give you four steps on how you can be better at patience, how you can increase the muscles of patience.

Let's continue. What we're going to do is we're going to walk through a variety of scriptures to give us some context of what patience is all about. And I believe that it will help us understand His mind of how important patience is in His book. First Corinthians chapter 13, you knew we were in here first. 4 through 7, it says, "**Love suffers long and is kind. Love does not envy. Love does not parade itself. It's not puffed up, does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil, does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth, bears all things,**" that's patience, "**believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.**" Half of these that are on here are relating to *how* we deal with people and dealing with **bearing** one another's burdens and to not provoke one another, to **endure all things**. You cannot endure anything, my friend, without patience. So if we were to grade ourselves on patience. If you fail in patience, then you're failing in your marriage. If you fail in patience, you're failing with your kids. If you fail in patience, you're failing with your neighbor and you're breaking the second commandment. If you're breaking the second commandment, you can't fulfill the first commandment of loving God with all your heart, mind, soul, and strength. It's just not possible. Patience is the *linchpin* that holds the trailer of love to the truck of Christ. If you don't have that linchpin, the trailer comes off the hitch and the truck moves on and you are disconnected from the source. That's how important this is.

Let's get into it. Let's continue. Ephesians chapter 4, verse 1 through 4 says, "**I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling which you were called, with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is above all, through all and in you all.**" What do we see in this passage? I could spend 20 minutes just preaching on this passage alone. It's all about **unity**. It's all about **bearing with one another**. Basically, the idea is we're not independent contractors. We live in herds. And when you're in herds, you're sometimes going to feel like you're *not heard*. You're going to feel frustrated. You're going to feel devalued, not appreciated. And God says, look, man, I want you to, with **lowliness and gentleness**, with **longsuffering**, with *great patience*, I want you to *bear* with one another. Why does He say that? Because the apostle knows that *people are people and hurt people hurt people*, so we need to bear one another's burdens.

Proverbs 16.32, let's go to the Old Testament. It says, "**He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he who rules his spirit, he who takes a city.**" Did you hear that, my friends? It says this. It says, if you're **slow to anger**, you're *stronger* than the strongest man that's out there. You know why? Because it's a very weak person that can't control themselves. True strength is biting the tongue. Matter of fact, let me say this. **True strength is knowing that**

you're right, but not feeling a need to prove it. How many times have you been in an argument with your spouse, and you know they're wrong? Matter of fact, there's probably never a time where you don't think that they're wrong, but you know they're wrong. And let's say this time you know it, and you can prove it, but you choose *not* to prove it, to go there, to debate that subject because you know it'll escalate the argument. So you **choose to be wrong to make it right.** *That is real strength.* That is *real* Messiahship, I should say. What did Yeshua do? What did Jesus do when He came? He *became* sin for us, the Bible says. He *became wrong to make it right.* If anyone had the right to defend Himself, it was *Him*, but He *chose to be wrong* and take sin on His shoulders *to make it right.* How about we, in the middle of our frustration, we **absorb the frustration.** We **absorb their sin.** We absorb what's going on around us. We **accept it and be okay with it.** Amen.

Let's move on. Colossians 3:12 says, "**Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.**" Long-suffering, as it is in many translations. We need to **put on these things** because this is just what believers do. This is what Bible believers that do Bible things in Bible ways do. We put it on. It doesn't come on us when we come out of the womb. We have to put it on like clothing. Romans 15:5 says, "**Now may the God of patience and comfort grant you to be like-minded toward one another, according to Christ Jesus.**" I put this verse in there because it tells us God is a God of patience. He could have easily just flicked our entire planet into the solar system somewhere and killed every one of us instantly and would have had the right to do it, and *none* of us would have known anything different. He didn't have to create eternity. He could have just said, when you're dead, you're dead, and nobody would know anything. But *His great patience* and careful instructions. He *allows* His kindness, right? Is what causes us to repent. It's His gentleness and His patience that will give us the time to repent. Judgment day doesn't even happen until the end of the thousand-year millennial reign of Christ. If He waits that long to judge people, don't you think maybe we should wait a little bit before we start judging everybody and judging one another and even judging ourselves? **Give ourselves time. Give others time.** Don't be frustrated with them. If you're frustrated with them, someone's frustrated with you. Because *none of us* are righteous, not even one.

Let's continue. 1 Timothy 1:12 through 16 says, "**I thank Christ Jesus our Lord who has enabled me, because He counted me faithful, putting me into the full-time ministry, although I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and an insolent man.**" Doesn't sound like a very nice guy. "**But I obtained mercy because I did it ignorantly in unbelief. And the grace of our Lord was exceedingly abundant, with faith and love which are in Christ Jesus. This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I'm a chief. However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me *first* Jesus Christ might show *all longsuffering, all patience, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life.***" My friends, the author here is saying that, look, I'm the worst of the worst. But Christ Jesus came in the world, to show perfect patience, to show *all longsuffering.* Can you *imagine?* Most of us can't handle, you know, a two-year-old crying in the backseat on a, you know, in a car ride. It's 20 minutes long. But the

Creator of the universe has to deal with 7 billion people *every* year. Simultaneously, 7 billion people crying in His backseat. *That's* longsuffering, my friends.

Let's continue. 2 Timothy 4:2, one of my favorite scriptures says, "**Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Correct, rebuke, and encourage, with great patience and gentle instruction,**" is how I remember it, how I memorized it. "**Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching**" My friends this is what we're supposed to do. We're supposed to preach the word, in season and out of season, but when necessary we need to **correct, rebuke, and encourage**. Most of us are really good at correction. Most of us are even *better* at rebuking. But *very few* of us end it with **encouragement**. Very few people end it with *exhortation*. And it ends the first by saying, with *great* patience and careful instruction. You *cannot* correct anyone without **great patience and careful instruction**. Be careful how you instruct because **your words matter**. Parents, *your words matter*. What you say matters. When you're harsh with your kids, it will absolutely have the ability to go *deep* in them and crush their spirits. Let me get raw for you for just a minute. This is an ironic message for me to teach. You know why? Because patience is not my best virtue. It's not even in the top eight out of the nine gifts of the spirit. I need to admit it. It's number nine. And the whole first is last and the last first thing in scripture. It doesn't work for this. It's *truly* last. And I had a situation just the other day where I *humiliated* myself and my guardian angel that's with me. I had to probably do a face plant to the forehead with the hand because he probably was so embarrassed at how I acted.

Here's what happened. My daughter, we were very tired. We were coming back from a four-hour ministry trip. Everyone's tired, they're hungry, they were aggravating. My two youngest ones were aggravating each other the *whole entire* way. And we had had so much patience. But by the time I got home, it was like 11:30 at night. And my daughter, my oldest, my, excuse me, my 12-year-old was blow-drying the dog after washing the dog, and my nine-year-old wanted in the bathroom. Well, what my nine-year-old didn't tell me was that the 12-year-old, Kyla, had told her, you'll have to wait till I'm done washing the dog or the dog will jump out of the sink. Makes perfect sense. So, Selah, my youngest, she comes to me and says, "Daddy, Kyla won't let me in the bathroom." So, I said, "Well, you tell her to let her in right now or she'll get in trouble," Dad said. Right? So, and they're supposed to obey with that. So, she went up there and I stood there at the bottom of the stairs and I listened to my daughter knock on the door three times and yell at the top of her lungs without Kyla answering the door. So, I went up there and knocked on the door pretty heavy, as a dad might do when he's tired and frustrated. And she finally opened the door, and I lost it. I got really upset with her, told her she was getting a spanking for direct disobedience to Selah, which was direct disobedience to me because it was *my* word that was being carried through the emissary and messenger of my youngest daughter. Well, Kyla starts crying and the whole thing was dramatic and she appealed to her mom.

We have an appeal system in our house where when a judgment's made, they have the right to appeal that judgment to a, the higher court, the appellate court in our home. So, she went directly to mom, who was laying down, trying to almost go to bed. And I, as all the information

came out, which I *made the mistake of assuming* that I had all the information, and I found out that Kyla couldn't hear Selah through the hairdryer. She only heard the knock and she did ignore the knock because she told Selah that she's not opened the door until she's done. So, Kyla was *traumatized* by how angry dad was, he lost his temper and I just *broke*. My *heart broke* at the fact that her lip was quivering and she was having tears come down her eyes because I had judged her unfairly and I had to hold her and caress her and love on her to bring repentance and a peace offering to her for dad's mistakes.

So, we *all* make mistakes and this is a big problem in the world today, especially with dads who tend to lose their cool a little quicker than moms, but maybe you're a mom that loses your cool because you're around your kids all day. I don't know. All I know is that *I blew it badly* the other day, ironically, right before teaching this message. And so, *I* need this message just as much as you. If we want to be in the image of Messiah, we got to get this right. And so, I'm going to give you some four points to remember here at the very end, but let's continue. We got to make sure we have gentle and careful instruction. And there was nothing careful and nothing gentle about my instruction the other day, for sure.

It says, Proverbs 15:18, "**A wrathful man stirs up strife, but he who's slow to anger allays contention,**" puts contention at bay. And that's what we want to do. All right? I love this. Ecclesiastes 7:8, "**The end of a thing is better than its beginning. The patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit.**" Makes sense. "**Do not hasten in your spirit to be angry, for anger rests in the bosom of fools.**" Lack of patience leads to frustration. Frustration leads to anger. Anger leads, eventually, to murder, whether a reputation or in real time. And this is the last verse I want to talk about related to patience, but it's going to have a different Hebrew word on it, and *then* we're going to switch directions and show you this obscure Hebrew, right here in Nehemiah chapter 9, starting in verse 28. It says, "**And many times you delivered them into Your mercies, and testified against them, that You might bring them back to Your law. Yet they acted proudly and did not heed Your commandments, but sinned against Your judgments, 'Which if a man does, he shall live by them.'** And they shrugged their shoulders, stiffened their necks, and you would not hear. Yet for *many years*," listen, "**You had *patience* with them, and testified against them by your spirit in your prophets, yet they would not listen.**" My friends, that word patience there is **māšaḳ**. And that's the word of the week I want you to learn. It's the word **māšaḳ**. Here's what **māšaḳ** means. It means, we would say, a typical patience word is to suffer, to bear, like we said earlier. But this word for patience is *powerful*. It means **to draw**, like **lifting out something. To drag along, to lead along, to draw, as in to draw the bow. To proceed, to march, to make a sound for the purpose of drawing someone out, or something out. To prolong, to continue to trail. To seed, as in sowing a seed. To cheer, to draw, attract, or gratify.** My friends, we're going to break this down. But these are *amazing* definitions that tell us the idea is to just drag your feet, if you will, to draw your bow. We'll talk about that in just a moment.

Let's dig in. *Incredibly*, in the Strong's Concordance, in the Hebrew section of the Strong's Concordance, *this word* is the *first word* after the word *mashiach* in Hebrew. And if you know a little bit about Hebrew, *Mashiach* is the word for *Messiah*. It's what *Yeshua* is. It's what *Jesus* is. He is the *Mashiach*. *Yeshua HaMashiach*. It means *Jesus is the Messiah*. The *very first attribute*, the *very first word* after the word *Messiah* is *patience*. Isn't that incredible? Showing us, I believe prophetically, that *this is* the banner quality characteristic that *Messiah* has, it's *patience*.

So, let's talk about some of these incredible, intriguing, detailed definition of *māšaḳ*. Okay. *māšaḳ*, to draw, as if lift someone up. Remember? Genesis 37:28, "**Then the Midianite traders passed by, so the brothers pulled Joseph up and lifted him out of the pit, sold him back to the Ishmaelites for 20 shekels of silver, and they took Joseph to Egypt.**" This is **patience pulls people out of wells and out of dungeons** as well. If we move over to Jeremiah 38, we find out that Jeremiah is in the bottom of a well. And here's what they do. In verse 13, or excuse me, 11, it says, "**So Ebed-Melech took the men with him and went into the house of the king under the treasury, and took from there old clothes and old rags, and let them down by ropes into the dungeon to Jeremiah. Then Ebed-Melech the Ethiopian said to Jeremiah, 'Please put these old clothes and rags under your armpits, under your ropes.' And Jeremiah did so. So, they pulled Jeremiah up with ropes and lifted him out of the dungeon.**" That word pulled there is *māšaḳ*. And look at the incredible prophetic significance. *They took old rags and clothes* and they put it under him. Sometimes we have to be willing to get dirty and have old rags and old clothes like *Yeshua* came from eternity, put on the old rags cloaked in humanity so He could *lift us up*. **When we're patient with people**, my friends, **it lifts them up**. It lifts *them* up. It's not about you. It's about *them*. And *patience* lifts them up and it lifts you up.

Patience also causes you and others to **march towards deliverance**. Remember one of the words was to march. Judges 4:7, "**And against you I will deploy or I will march Sisera, the commander of Jabin's army, with his chariots and his multitude at the River Kishon; and I will deliver them into your hand.**" *Patience* causes people to *march towards deliverance*. It's not your job to point out their sin. It's your job to *deliver them* from whatever is happening and deliver *yourself* from whatever circumstance that is around you. *Deliverance* is what's going to happen when you have *patience*.

It's also like drawing a bow. *Patience* is like **drawing a bow back against the enemy**. We see this in Second Chronicles 18:33. It says, "**Now a certain man drew a bow at random, and struck the king of Israel between the joints of his armor.**" This was a bad king of Israel, right. So, the Lord allowed someone to *māšaḳ*, *drew back the bow*, and it ended up *killing* someone who ended up being out of God's will, a wicked king, a bad king. So, to draw or to have *patience* is like drawing a bow back against the enemy. God's will will *always be done* when we have *patience*.

You see, when we move forward and we push forward, don't we make mistakes first of all in the physical realm? Second of all, how do you know that it's God? If you push forward, you can't possibly know. But when you have patience and you give Yahweh *time to act*, then when He sets the table and moves everything around, you'll know it's Him. You'll know exactly where to sit at the table. You'll know exactly which door to walk through.

Patience also **postpones judgment and brings the Word of God**. Look at this, Ezekiel 12:25, "**For I am Yahweh, I speak, and the word which I speak will come to pass; it will no more be postponed,**" That word is **māšaḳ**. When we have patience, we are postponing judgment and we're bringing the Word of God into the situation. Because remember what Luke 21:19 says, it says "**Patience allows you to possess your soul.**" So, when you have patience, you are coming and you are *inviting*, I should say, the Holy Spirit to take over in that moment. And that is where you see *deliverance*. That is where you see the Word of God show up. That is where you see *power* in a moment, in a situation, in a circumstance.

It draws people towards the living God. Watch this. Hosea 11:3, 4 says, "**I taught Ephraim to walk, taking them by their arms, but they did not know that I healed them. I drew them with gentle cords, with bands of love, as I was to them as those who take the yoke from their neck. I stooped and fed them.**" My friends, I could spend 30 minutes just on this verse alone. When God Himself is saying, I **māšaḳ**, I drew them, I had *patience* with them, with *gentle cords* I wrapped my arms around them and they *didn't even know it*. They were wayward and God went after them. How many of us, when we have someone that frustrates us, we just cut them off, we do whatever it takes to gratify our flesh, instead of wrapping our arms around them and *drawing them close to us* through love, through patience, through gentleness, caring instruction like Yeshua did with us. You see what happens, I see too many people online. They come into the front of the book, they think they know something. They know a few rules. They see someone that they *think* broke the rules and they just *land blast* them and they cut them off. They slander them. I've even seen people *curse* online in the name of God. It's almost *unfathomable* how *lack of patience and love* that some people have. The most impatient people I believe are the most religious people. The spirit of the Antichrist and the Pharisee is still alive today.

It's also like **planting seeds of life into the lives of others**. Amos 9.13 says this, "**Behold, the days are coming,' says Yahweh, 'When the plowman shall take over the reaper, and the treader of grapes him who sows seed.'**" That word **sows is māšaḳ**. When we have patience, it's like sowing seeds into people's lives. It's like sowing a seed of faith and life into your life. You see, all of these amazing definitions, it's not like *suffering*. This plays on the selfishness of man because who doesn't want *seeds of life*? Who doesn't want to have *deliverance*? Who doesn't want to be *drawn out of a well*? Who doesn't want to *help others*? When we have patience, you know what it does? All of these things. So, it's in our benefit to do this because we get something out of it. We possess our souls. We have seeds of life. It's like drawing the bow against the enemy. All of these things are connected to **māšaḳ**.

A couple examples of patience are Abraham. How about Abraham? When he was asked by Isaac, remember when Isaac said, "Dad, what's going on? Where's the sacrifice? We've got the wood, we got everything." And this is what Abraham said. One of the most amazing responses and examples of patience in *all* of the Bible. He says, "**God Himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son.**" He had so much patience, he knew. You don't think that thought was going through his head? How is God going to pull this off? But he had patience. He **let the situation play out** and he **let the Holy Spirit win the day**. And not only did he win the day, *Abraham* won the day because he passed the test and he became the father of many nations. "Nobody gets promoted," says God, "without a test." And you know what your test will almost always be? Patience.

How about the prodigal son? When the father sees the prodigal son come back, throws a giant party. He was patient for his son. He said, man, I can't teach you anything. You think you know what you need to do, go do it. I'll be here when you return. And the son went through a living suffering hell out there, sleeping with the pigs in the mud. And when he came back, he expected judgment, but he didn't. He received the arms of the father, exactly the whole entire gospel.

What about Joseph? Joseph, 13 years in a prison, right? Tremendous patience, having to be treated so terribly by his brothers and being sold and almost died and then slandered and falsely accused, and ended up in prison. I know that story very well in my own personal life. He had patience and allowed God to work something in him, and to work pride out of him. And then he could take his place next to pharaoh and be part of saving God's people in history.

So here we go, to end this we've got four steps to develop more patience. These steps, I believe, will be impactful for you, you need to memorize them. I made it simple, in an acronym, **D.A.R.E**, **D-A-R-E**. **D is don't try to fix the situation**. Too many of us try to *fix it* at that moment. We try to fix the *person* in that moment. **We can't fix anybody**, period, much less in a moment of emotion. That is *not* the time to fix anything.

A, accept the situation. This one's powerful for me. The Father used this in my life just today. In dealing with this teaching, I've had so many technology problems putting this together. And you know what I said out loud? I literally used my own acronym. I'm going to accept this situation. You see, because when you accept something, you can't reject it. **Rejection is what causes frustration**. Say that with me. Rejection is what causes frustration. If you don't reject it, you can't get frustrated. So just *accept it*. Be a man. Be a woman of God and *accept your situation*.

R is refuse to judge. We're *really* bad at this. In the moment, in the *heated* moment, even in traffic, we say, "We *shouldn't* have this traffic. This *shouldn't* be here, or that person *shouldn't* have done this, or you *shouldn't* have said this." You're judging. What if they want to say that? What if they're hurt? What if they're frustrated? Why can't they have the *right* to be frustrated in that moment? Maybe there's information that you don't know. Refuse to judge.

And last, exercise silence. **E is exercise silence.** This is a difficult one for most of us, including me, because I have a little bit of a prosecuting attorney inside of me, or a defense attorney, depends on which side of the fence I'm on. And I want to *not* be silent. I want to *defend* my case. The Father says, "Be quiet. Be silent." **When Yeshua was going to the cross**, you know it says, "**He said not a word.**" And I believe that it's an *incredible example* of what it means to *truly* lay your life down for your loved ones. There's no greater love, my friends, than to lay your life down. And what that means is to **lay your tongue down**, is to **put your lips together, be silent, and go to the cross.** Sometimes you have to be crucified to have resurrection. Sometimes you've got to *die* in order to live. Sometimes you've got to *be wrong* in order to *make it right*. And there's not enough people out there that have the patience, or the strength, or the will to actually *be* the Messiah for their spouse, for their children, for those around them.

Most people make life all about them. They're the center of their own universe, and everybody is just planets revolving around them. I've lived that, I know what that's like. All of us do that from time to time. But the reality is, my friend, that *until* we get this right, we will never possess our souls. And the enemy will be the one that will be in control of our mind, our will, and our emotion. Do you struggle with sin today? Do you struggle with addiction? I can promise you that it's connected to patience. Because patience says, I want it now, and I get frustrated when I don't. When my computer's not fast enough, I get frustrated. So do this, my friends. **Don't try to fix the situation. Accept the situation. Refuse to judge. And exercise silence.**

Let's pray. Father, I just thank You so much for Your patience with us. Your long suffering. I thank You for drawing Yourself down to this earth and lifting us up out of the pit. I thank You for planting the seeds of life into our own hearts that would grow in our hearts. That would grow in our patience with one another. Because You are patient with us. Lord, I would be... It would be terrible, Father, if You treated us the way we treat other people. So we are grateful that You are faithful even when we're faithless. That You're patient when we're not patient. That You love when we don't love. That You don't choose to judge when we judge. Father, I pray for everyone that's in the sound of my voice right now, that You would convict them, give them the strength to go to their neighbor, to go to their spouse, to go to their children, that loved one, and apologize and repent for the lack of patience. And Father, I pray that You would give tremendous encouragement and careful instruction to everyone that truly desires to follow You in a deeper way. In Yeshua's name. Amen.

Last but not least, my friends. I'm going to encourage you to *practice* being patient in the small things. Science has proven that if you do this in small things, when you're super hungry and you sit down to eat, take an extra three or four or five minutes before you eat. When you're really thirsty, take a couple minutes before you actually drink. Let someone else go in front of you. If *you do* and practice patience in very small things, when the big moments come, when that argument comes, when that traffic comes and you're late, you'll be more apt to do the right thing in those moments. Practice those things. Memorize the D.A.R.E. And I dare you to memorize the D.A.R.E. acronym. And I pray that God blesses you at the end of the day. And let His face shine upon you as you possess your souls through patience. Shalom.

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