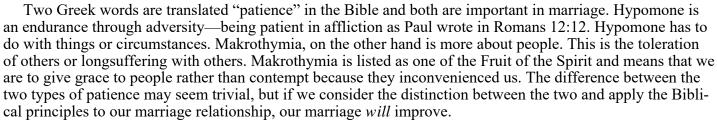
Patience:





The fact that 80% of couples who experience long-term the illness of one spouse or the other divorce demonstrates that far too many people today do not have "hypomone" or endurance in their lives. People today often don't persevere in marriage, yet, the Bible admonishes us to persevere or have patience through the troubles and adversity we experience in life. No marriage is perfect and when we work through the problems we experience, our will marriage grow.

Couples also need to be *patient* with each other—to have "makrothymia." Colossians 3:12 tells us to clothe ourselves with, among other things, *patience* or longsuffering. Who tends to be most annoying to us? Our spouse! Our differences can be trying sometimes and we need to give grace to each other—to accept and tolerate our differences. Proverbs 16:12 says that "a fool shows annoyance at one, but a prudent man overlooks an insult." Being patient with our spouse will help us avoid looking a fools, and more than that, we demonstrate love for God and our spouse by being patient with him or her.

Do you have both kinds of patience with your spouse? Are you committed to your spouse no matter what and work with him or her through the adversities you face? Do you also bear with your spouse? Tolerating your differences and seeking to connect even when he or she is annoying? Surrender to the Lord and in His strength bear with your spouse and patiently love them—clothing yourself with patience.

Helpful Resources: Fortified Marriages Resource page: www.fortifiedmarriages.com

Articles to check out: Patience in Marriage — www.openbible.info

Patience in Marriage: 8 Tips You Can Implement In Your Marriage Today by Marcus and Ashley Kusi

ourpeacefulfamily.com/patience-in-marriage

Book to check out: How to Become Patient by James O'Donnell