

Patient Perseverance

Patient Perseverance: Faithfully walking in God's ways, knowing He is helping us, and allowing nothing to stop us from reaching our goal of sharing His Good News with the world.

“to self-control **perseverance**” (2 Peter 1:6).

“My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing” (James 1:2-4).

“Therefore be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, waiting patiently for it until it receives the early and latter rain. You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand” (James 5:7, 8).

“Patience pours the balm of peace and love into the experiences of the home life. When we exercise the precious grace of patience toward others, they will reflect our spirit, and we shall gather with Christ. Patience will seek for unity in the church, in the family, and in the community. This grace must be woven into our lives” (*Peter's Counsel to Parents*, p. 19).

“Being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ” (Philippians 1:6).

“Christ gave Himself to the world, that He might save those who would believe in Him. Shall not we, partakers of this great salvation, value the souls for whom He gave His life! Let us labor with a perseverance and energy proportionate to the value Christ places upon His blood-bought heritage. Human souls have cost too much to be trifled with, or treated with harshness or indifference” (*Christian Leadership*, p. 7).

“In the name of the Lord, with the untiring perseverance and unflagging zeal that Christ brought into His labors, we are to carry forward the work of the Lord” (*Testimonies*, vol. 9, p. 25).

Intercession Focus: Persevering in Our Mission to the World

God has called us to persevere in our efforts to share His Good News with people. Pray for:

- Adventist missionaries, Bible workers, pastors, lay members, and their families
- The gospel to spread rapidly in the 10/40 Window and in unreached people groups
- The barriers to be removed so the gospel can be preached in closed nations
- Each Adventist church member to regularly, and actively, witness for their faith
- God to show you whom He wants you to reach and how to pray for lost people around you
- God to clearly guide your church's outreach and for many to be won to Him
- Adventist media to provide a massive evangelistic emphasis around the world

Patient Perseverance / Mission to the World

While I work on the plan of **addition** . . . God is working on the plan of **multiplication!**

Dear Lord, during the next 24 hours, I feel You calling me to add this grace to my life: _____

In Your strength and by Your power, I choose to: _____

These are the ways I saw God multiply His grace to me today:

Patient Perseverance / Mission to the World

Suggested Plan

Introduction—5 Minutes:

- Remind people of general guidelines for united prayer as explained in United Prayer Guidelines (available on www.tendaysofprayer.org).
- Introduce prayer topic: patient perseverance, especially in our mission to the world.
- Have each person select five intercession cards at random from the intercession box to pray over during the supplication time. Make sure they return these to the box at the end.

United Prayer Time

Praise—10 Minutes:

- Praise God for His patience with us, for not giving up on us, and for giving us His patience in dealing with others and His perseverance in our work for Him.
- Praise God for the mission work He is doing through His people around the world.
- Invite people to share their answers to prayer as praises to God.

Confession—10 Minutes:

- Give people five to eight minutes to search their own hearts, to silently ask God to reveal sin, and to ask for forgiveness and cleansing.
- Allow two to five minutes for corporate confession of our collective sins of impatience, laziness, and not taking our mission to reach the world seriously.

Supplication—25 Minutes:

- Ask God to grant us patience in all circumstances, to help us praise Him in trials, and to work in us to will and to do His good pleasure.
- Plead for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit to bring revival and reformation in our lives and give us a renewed vision of our responsibility to witness to the world.
- Intercede for the lost in your community and around the world using the ideas in the Intercession Focus. This could take a large portion of the time.
- Divide people into groups of two or three to pray for the individuals/situations listed on the five cards they chose from the box. Encourage them to keep praying scriptures!

Journal Page Time—5 Minutes:

- Invite individuals to reflect on God's goodness and write down their prayer goal.
- Participants can ask God whom He wants them to reach out to and seek to lead to Him in 2013. They can record these names on their journal sheets.

Praise—5 Minutes:

- Thank God for giving us a spirit of patient perseverance and enabling us to finish His work on earth!

Suggested Songs to Use: "Come, Holy Spirit"; "People Need the Lord"; "Press On"; "Everybody Ought to Know"; "God is So Good"; "Lift High the Cross" (SDA Hymnal #362); "Rescue the Perishing" (SDA Hymnal #367); "Seeking the Lost" (SDA Hymnal #373).