

## God's Green Thumb

What God Grows - Shows: **Patience**  
Galatians 5:22-23, 1 Thessalonians 5:14-15  
and 1 Timothy 1:12-16

*22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, **forbearance**, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control. Galatians 5:22-23*

### Two words in the New Testament (Greek) for patience:

#### 1. Don't give up

ὑπομονή (hupomone) - Patience with circumstances

#### 2. Don't Blow Up

μακροθυμία (makrothumia) - Patience with people

Paul uses *makrothumia* in Galatians 5:22-23

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### Patience (forbearance)

*14 And we urge you, brothers and sisters, **warn** those who are idle and disruptive, **encourage** the disheartened, **help** the weak, be **patient** with everyone.*

1 Thessalonians 1:14

1. **Warn** those who are idle and disruptive.  
(unruly troublemakers)

2. **Encourage** the disheartened.  
(easily discouraged)

3. **Help** the weak.  
(not as experienced as you are)

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*15 Make sure that nobody **pays back** wrong for wrong, but always strive to **do what is good** for each other and for everyone else. 1 Thessalonians 5:15*

*'Don't pay back **wrong for wrong.**' (vs. 15a)*

- Unbearable
- Unchangeable
- Unforgivable

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*Strive (try your best) to do what is good for everyone. (vs. 15b)*

— I just **lost** my patience!

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Introduce Prayer Time

Music

Sermon Part 2

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Galatians 5:22-23, 1 Thessalonians 5:14-15  
and 1 Timothy 1:12-16

*12 I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, that he considered me trustworthy, appointing me to his service. 13 Even though I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and unbelief. 14 The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.*

*15 Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst. 16 But for that very reason **I was shown mercy** so that in me, the worst of sinners, **Christ Jesus might display his immense patience as an example** for those who would believe in him and receive eternal life. 1 Timothy 1:12-16*

*'Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance...'* (vs. 15a)  
(You can bet your life on this...)

**sinners:** not a category of people but all people.

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**\*\*Cultivating patience that is unnatural to us starts with an awareness of the supernatural patience that God extended to us.**