

DELIVERY

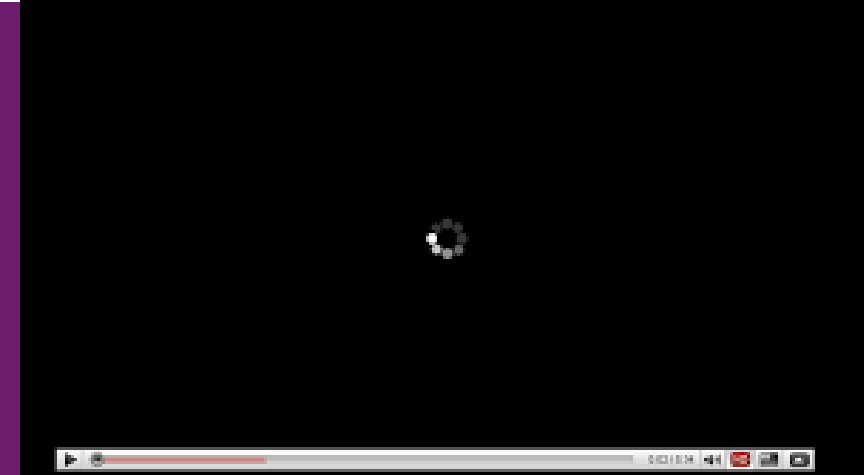
WE OFFER FREE STANDARD DELIVERY AND 100 DAYS FREE RETURNS ON ALL ORDERS!

Due to high demand and the additional health and safety measures now in place to protect our logistics teams, our deliveries are taking a little longer to reach you.

The dictionary definition of patience is **'the quality of being able calmly to endure suffering, toil, delay, vexation, or any similar condition.'**

Think for a moment about what examples of patience (or impatience) you have seen over the last week.

PATIENCE



How Patient Are You?

1. How does waiting make you feel?
2. What is the longest time you've ever had to wait for a method of transport?
3. How do you pass the time whilst you are waiting?
4. What do you think is the worst thing to have to wait for?
5. What don't you mind waiting for?
6. What is the worst place you have ever had to wait?
7. When you're at a shop and your queue is moving slowly, do you wait, or move queues?
8. On a scale of 1-10 (with 1 being not at all patient) how patient are you?

We live in an instant-gratification society where everything needs to happen now; we eat fast-food because we can't bear to wait and be hungry; we get frustrated in traffic jams or if the bus is held up; we want our emails to download quickly and our web pages to open instantly; we get annoyed with ourselves if we choose the wrong queue at the supermarket and end up waiting longer to be served than the person in the next aisle. This may be overstating the case but on the whole, we're not very good at showing patience!

At the moment we may be having to develop extra patience as we have to wait longer for deliveries; as the wheel of doom circles for longer as we try to stream our video; as we have to go to several different shops to find the item we need; as we have to bear with one another – stuck at home with each other.

THE BENEFITS OF PATIENCE

Patience is the calm acceptance that things can happen in a different order than the one you have in your mind

What can we learn from having to be patient?

Look at these quotes. What do they suggest?



Be patient
and tough;
someday this pain
will be useful to you.
Ovid



Learning patience
can be a difficult
experience,
but once conquered
you will find
life is easier.
Catherine Pulsifer

www.wow4it.com

“
Patience is
a key element
of success.
—Bill Gates
”



Patience
is not passive,
on the contrary,
it is concentrated
strength.
Bruce Lee

Whoever is patient has great understanding, but one who is quick-tempered displays folly. **Proverbs 14:29**

Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.
Romans 12:12

The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance. **2 Peter 3:9**

Better a patient person than a warrior, one with self-control than one who takes a city. **Proverbs 16:32**

A hot-tempered person stirs up conflict, but the one who is patient calms a quarrel.
Proverbs 15:18

PATIENCE
Read through these Bible verses.
What do they suggest about the benefits of patience?
What reasons do they give to be patient?

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. **Colossians 3:12**

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. **1 Corinthians 13:4**

Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. **Ephesians 4:2**

WHAT MODEL DOES THE BIBLE GIVE US FOR PATIENCE?

The Lord is not slow to do what he has promised, as some think. Instead, he is **patient** with you, because he does not want anyone to be destroyed, but wants all to turn away from their sins.

2 Peter 3:9

The Bible teaches us that one day Jesus will return and he will bring justice to the whole earth (*what he has promised*). How does God show patience to people?

What does this verse suggest about why God is patient with us?

Throughout the Bible there are many characters who have to wait with patience. Joseph, betrayed by his brothers and sold into slavery in Egypt, had to wait patiently in prison when the baker and cupbearer forgot to tell Pharaoh he had interpreted their dreams. Job, bearing the suffering of having lost his family, possessions, health, had to wait patiently whilst his friends gave him poor advice about how to respond to God.

The Bible reveals to us that by far the most patient person is God himself. In the story of the prodigal son (you can read this in [Luke 15:11-24](#)) Jesus shows God to be a patient father, waiting for his rebellious son to return home.

The Lord is not slow to do what he has promised, as some think. Instead, he is **patient** with you, because he does not want anyone to be destroyed, but wants all to turn away from their sins.

2 Peter 3:9

Father God

Thank you for your patience to us. Thank you that you are a patient father, waiting for your rebellious children to come back to you. Thank you that through Jesus you have made a way for us to be restored to a right relationship with you, in spite of our rebellious hearts.

Please help us to be patient with one another, especially at this time when we are living with lots of challenges. Help us to be joyful in hope, patient in affliction and to turn to you in prayer.

Amen

Why not ask God to help you to be patient with the things you are struggling with at the moment.