

Endurance
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Read: Matthew 24: 10-13
Romans 5:3-4
2 Corinthians 6:3-4
Hebrews 10:37
Hebrews 12:1-7
James 1:2-4
James 5:11
Revelation 2:1-4

1. You have heard of “endurance.”

- a. Endurance is mentioned 28 times in the NT
- b. You know that you need it.
- c. You know that you are running a marathon (with patience) and not a sprint.
- d. You know that endurance to the end is a requirement not an option.
- e. You have read **Matt 24:10-13** "And at that time many will fall away and will deliver up one another and hate one another. 11 "And many false prophets will arise, and will mislead many. 12 "And because lawlessness is increased, most people's love will grow cold. 13 "But the one who endures to the end, he shall be saved."

2. How do you get endurance?

- a. First let's look at how an athlete acquires endurance.
 1. He works out; day after grueling day.
 2. If it is too cold; he works out anyway.
 3. If it is too hot, too rainy, too dry, too windy; he works out anyway.
 4. After a while he acquires endurance.
 5. But he must suffer to do so.
- b. Did you know that suffering and trials are what brings about endurance?
 1. **Rom 5: 3-4** "And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance [hupomeno: endurance]; 4 and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope."
 2. **James 1:2-4** "Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, 3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. 4 And let endurance have its perfect result, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing."
 3. **Heb 12:3-7** "For consider Him who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that you may not grow weary and lose heart. 4 You have not yet resisted to the point of shedding blood in your striving against sin; 5 and you have forgotten the exhortation which is addressed to you as sons, "My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor faint when you are reprovved by Him; 6 For those whom the Lord loves He disciplines, and He scourges every son whom He receives."7 It is for discipline that you endure; God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom his father does not discipline?"
 4. Suffering and trials are to the Christian what a workout is to the athlete.

3. **It is by our endurance that we are recognized as being real believers according to 2Cor 6:3-4.** “Giving no cause for offense in anything, in order that the ministry be not discredited, but in everything commending ourselves as servants of God, in much endurance, in afflictions, in hardships, in distresses.”

4. **It is by our endurance that we receive what is promised. Heb 10:36** “For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God, you may receive what was promised.”

5. **It is by endurance that we receive blessings. James 5:11** “Behold, we count those blessed who endured. You have heard of the endurance of Job and have seen the outcome of the Lord's dealings, that the Lord is full of compassion and is merciful.”

6. **It is possible to have endurance, and yet to have lost our first love. Rev 2:1-4**

"To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: the One who holds the seven stars in His right hand, the One who walks among the seven golden lampstands, says this: 'I know your deeds and your toil and perseverance, and that you cannot endure evil men, and you put to the test those who call themselves apostles, and they are not, and you found them to be false; and you have perseverance and have endured for My name's sake, and have not grown weary. 'But I have this against you, that you have left your first love.'"

7. **Endurance:** Fill in the blank. It's easy. Just use the word which identifies the subject of this lesson.

- a. To be grateful and thankful when suffering you need: _____.
- b. To be cheerful in the face of a persistent illness you need: _____.
- c. To be faithful when tempted you need: _____.
- d. When you are insulted you need: _____.
- e. To stay alert and tuned in when listening to teaching you need: _____. 😊
- f. When you are tempted not to properly discipline your children you need: ____.
- g. To make it to the end you need: _____.