

PATIENCE

THE BIBLE TEACHES THAT WE ARE TO BE PATIENT. THIS GOES AGAINST OUR NATURAL RESPONSE TO OTHERS IN MANY WAYS

THERE'S STORY IN THE BIBLE ABOUT A SERVANT WHO OWED HIS MASTER A LOT OF MONEY IN **MATTHEW 18:23-35**

²³ "Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴ As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold^[1] was brought to him. ²⁵ Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt.

²⁶ "At this the servant fell on his knees before him. 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.' ²⁷ The servant's master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go.

²⁸ "But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins.^[1] He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay back what you owe me!' he demanded.

²⁹ "His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.'

³⁰ "But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. ³¹ When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened.

³² "Then the master called the servant in. 'You wicked servant,' he said, 'I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. ³³ Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?' ³⁴ In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.

³⁵ "This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

PATIENCE WITH OTHERS

PUPPET SCRIPT

SALLY HEY THERE BOSS, HOW'S YOUR DAY GOING?

BOSS HI SALLY, YOU'RE JUST THE PERSON I WANTED TO SEE.

SALLY I AM?!

BOSS ACTUALLY, YES. I WANTED TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT THAT LOAN I MADE YOU SEVERAL MONTHS AGO. ACCORDING TO OUR CONTRACT, YOUR PAYMENT WAS DUE IN FULL THIS MORNING.

SALLY OH, UH, IT WAS? HOW EMBARRASSING

BOSS IT LOOKS LIKE I CAUGHT YOU OFF GUARD, BUT I HAVE A COPY OF THE CONTRACT AND THERE'S NO MISTAKE. I'M GOING TO NEED THE PAYMENT IN MY OFFICE CLOSE OF BUSINESS TODAY.

SALLY OH, UH, BUT.... I CAN'T PAY IT BACK YET. I DON'T HAVE THE MONEY.

BOSS SALLY, WHEN YOU BORROWED THE MONEY, I WENT OVER THE CONTRACT WITH YOU AND YOU SAID YOU UNDERSTOOD AND THAT 6 MONTHS WAS MORE THAN ENOUGH TIME. DON'T YOU REMEMBER?

SALLY WELL, YEAH, KINDA... BUT THE TIME SURE FLEW BY...I DON'T HAVE THE MONEY I OWE YOU TO GIVE YOU... BUT IF YOU'LL JUST GIVE ME MORE TIME, I WILL PAY IT ALL, I PROMISE.

BOSS IT SEEMS LIKE YOU DIDN'T TAKE YOUR PROMISE VERY SERIOUSLY, SO... I'M NOT SURE I SHOULD TRUST YOU AGAIN.

SALLY I'M SERIOUS, REALLY. (FALLS DOWN ON HER KNEES BEGGING) PLEASE, O PLEASE GIVE ME MORE TIME, I'LL DO WHAT IS RIGHT AND PAY ALL OF IT, I PROMISE, EVEN IF I HAVE TO GO HUNGRY, I'LL PAY IT ALL, PLEASE FORGIVE ME FOR BEING LATE AND GIVE ME SOME MORE TIME.

BOSS OK SALLY, I FORGIVE YOU... IN FACT I'LL WRITE ON THE CONTRACT "PAID IN FULL"... I'LL TAKE CARE OF IT. WORK HARD, BE HONEST AND FULFILL YOUR OTHER DEBTS.

SALLY O THANK YOU SO MUCH. YOU WON'T BE SORRY.

BOSS I JUST WANT YOU TO DO THE RIGHT THING AND TAKE PROMISES SERIOUSLY.

LATER

SALLY HI CANDI, HOW ARE YOU?

CANDI OH, HI SALLY, I'M GOOD. HOW ARE YOU?

SALLY WELL, FUNNY YOU SHOULD ASK....

CANDI HOW IS IT FUNN?

SALLY IT'S FUNNY BECAUSE I WAS COMING TO SEE YOU. I WANTED TO COLLECT THE MONEY YOU OWE ME.

CANDI O DEAR, I DON'T HAVE IT... I DIDN'T REALIZE YOU WOULD WANT IT SO SOON

SALLY WELL, I DO. I REALLY NEED IT CANDI.

CANDI O NO, I DON'T HAVE THE MONEY TO GIVE YOU. I'M REALLY SORRY. I'LL WORK REAL HARD AND HAVE IT TO YOU SOON, IF YOU'LL ONLY BE PATIENT WITH ME.

SALLY HOW IRRESPONSIBLE CAN YOU GET??!! YOU KNEW WHEN I LENT IT TO YOU IT WAS A L-O-A-N... TO BE PAID BAK

CANDI YES, YES, OF COURSE AND I WILL PAY IT ALL... JUST PLEASE GIVE ME A LITTLE MORE TIME TO GET IT FOR YOU...

SALLY I'LL NEVER TRUST YOU AGAIN! I'M GOING TO TAKE YOU TO COURT AND YOU'LL PAY ME MY MONEY WITH INTEREST!

BOSS HEY! WHAT'S GOING ON HERE? I CAN YOU BOTH ALL THE WAY DOWN THE HALL!

CANDI IT'S MY FAULT BOSS... I OWE SALLY SOME MONEY AND I KNEW IT WAS A LOAN, BUT I JUST DON'T HAVE IT YET... I KNOW IT'S A LOAN, I JUST HAVEN'T HAD ENOUGH TIME.. SO I WAS BEGGING HER TO BE PATIENT WITH ME. I APOLOGIZE FOR THE NOISE.

BOSS SALLY, IS THAT RIGHT? YOU WON'T GIVE HER A LITTLE MORE TIME TO PAY WHAT SHE OWES? EVEN AFTER I TOLD YOU I WOULD PAY YOUR DEBT FOR YOU? HOW COULD YOU BE SO IMPATIENT AND UNKIND? HOW MUCH DID SHE OWE YOU?

SALLY SHE OWES ME \$100

BOSS CANDI, YOU CAN GO ON BACK TO WORK, I NEED TO SPEAK WITH SALLY IN PRIVATE.

SALLY, YOU WOULDN'T GIVE HER A LITTLE MORE TIME TO PAY YO \$100? YOU OWED ME 100 TIMES THAT MUCH. WHY COULDN'T YOU BE PATIENT WITH HER?

SALLY I DON'T KNOW, I JUST NEEDED IT

BOSS I AM REVOKING THE RIGHT OFF OF YOUR DEBT. YOU WILL PAY ALL THAT YOU OWE OR WORK FOR IT IN THE DEBTORS PRISON TILL IT IS PAID IN FULL. I HOPE YOU WILL LEARN TO BE PATIENT AND KIND TO OTHERS