

# Love is patient

1 Corinthians 13:4

### **Breaking the Ice:**

Who is the most patient person you know; share a little about them.

#### For Reflection:

"If you're patient, you're slow to anger, you endure personal wrongs without retaliating. You bear with others' imperfections, faults, and differences. You give them time to change, room to make mistakes without coming down hard on them. Do you do that, men, with your wife and children?" — Steven J. Cole

# **Definition:** patient(covered in intro. Video)

μ μ makrothumei

Makros + Thumos

Macro (long, big) +Thermo (heat, temperature)

**pa•tient** \ p -sh nt\ adjective

- 1: bearing pains or trials calmly or without complaint
- **2:** manifesting forbearance under provocation or strain
- **3:** not hasty or impetuous
- **4:** steadfast despite opposition, difficulty, or adversity

# **Exploration:**

- 1. What are some of the causes of our losing patience with others?
- 2. In what ways have you experienced patience from another?
- 3. How patient has God been with all of us? (See also 2 Peter 3:9)
- 4. What are some ways you can suggest to increase your capacity for patience?

# **Response:**

- 1. Is there a person or circumstance that you need God's help to be more lovingly patient? Make that a matter of prayer.
- 2. Love cannot be produced by human effort alone; remember to rely on the Holy Spirit to give you the ability to love. (See: Gal. 5:22-23)

### **Bottom Line:**

God lovingly extends patience with us, lovingly extend patience to others.