

# Men are From Dirt & Women are From Men

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Endurance + Ignoring = Patience

## 2 Thessalonians 3:4,5 Perseverance Through the Times of Growth

We have confidence in the Lord that you are doing and will continue to do the things we command. <sup>5</sup> May the Lord direct your hearts *into God's love and Christ's perseverance.*

- > Marriage requires both the husband's singular vision and the wife's global view to build a marriage history.
- > Perseverance is tied to the God's purpose for our lives. When our purpose is eternal, then we are able to deal with the daily opportunities for growth.
- > Women need a vision to combine the past and the present. Men need the vision to set the present in light of the future. Patience/Perseverance sets the foundation for both to happen.

## Film Clip "Dick VanDyke"

1. How does Rob ignore the Laura's needs?
2. How does Laura ignore Rob's needs?
3. What does "be patient" mean to you?
4. What fruit comes from being patient with your spouse?



## 2 Corinthians 4:16,17 Patience Overcomes "Nearsightedness"

Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. <sup>17</sup> For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. <sup>18</sup> So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

- > The short-term answers are not important in light of the greater things the Lord is doing.
- > Patience comes when there is an eternal plan in view for yourself, your marriage and your family.
- > Patience reveals our desire for comfort and ease, and shows us what we truly value. are we ready to live for God's service or our own comfort and reputation?

## Romans 5:3ff Suffering-Perseverance-Character and Hope

<sup>3</sup> Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; <sup>4</sup> perseverance, character; and character, hope. <sup>5</sup> And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.

> Perseverance/patience is part of a bigger plan that God is using to grow us up.

> Rejoice>>>>

> *Not just endure*> ladies> Seeing and praying for change for her and for him

> *Not just ignore*> men > Seeing and praying for change for him and for her.

Key: *We embrace the sufferings* /challenges/good and the bad to see what God has for us as we are prepared for His plan.

Patience + the Holy Spirit = A change of Character and “New Hope” for the future and purpose of our marriage.

## James 1:4ff Building a Mature and Complete Marriage

<sup>4</sup> Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

> If we are going to build a strong relationship change comes from patiently building new:

Communication

Habits

Priorities

Purpose

Perspective on History

Expressed value

Security/Significance



## Game On:

**P** Prayerfully look at each situation

- Train yourself to see things through God’s eyes

**A** Assume that best of your spouses intentions

- What is the desire of your heart towards your spouse?

**T** Take control of yourself

- Take every thought captive.

**I** Invite the Holy Spirit to direct you.

- Realize that God can redesign the process.

**E** Eliminate the distractions of the flesh.

- Hurts/unforgiveness/ worldly counsel”

**N** Never assume what the other person is going to do.

- Putting away the things of the past in light of the new life in Christ.

**T** Touch base often with each other.

- Communication is key to empowering each other’s patience.